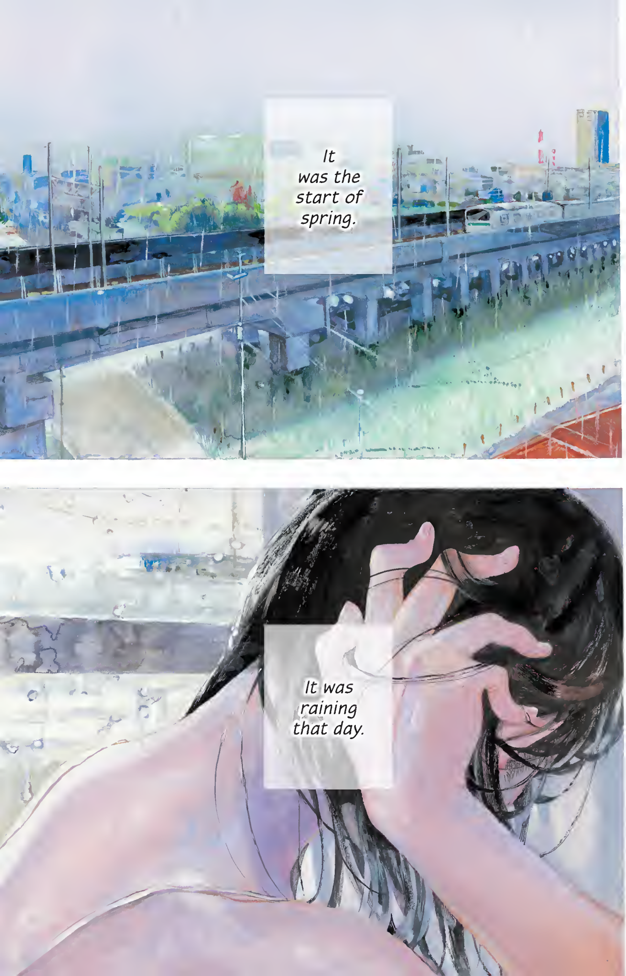
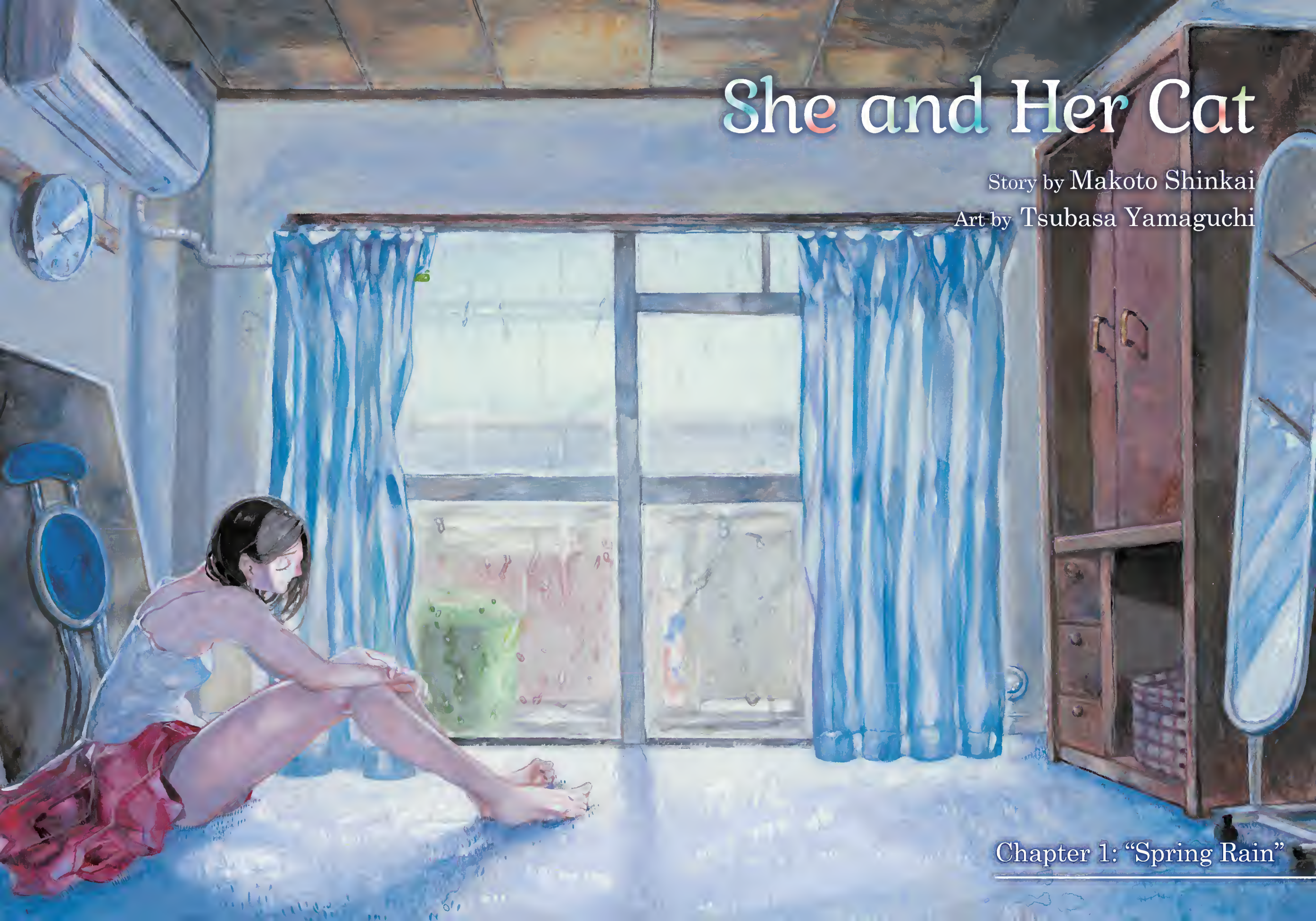
She and Her Cat

Story by Makoto Shinkai

Art by Tsubasa Yamaguchi

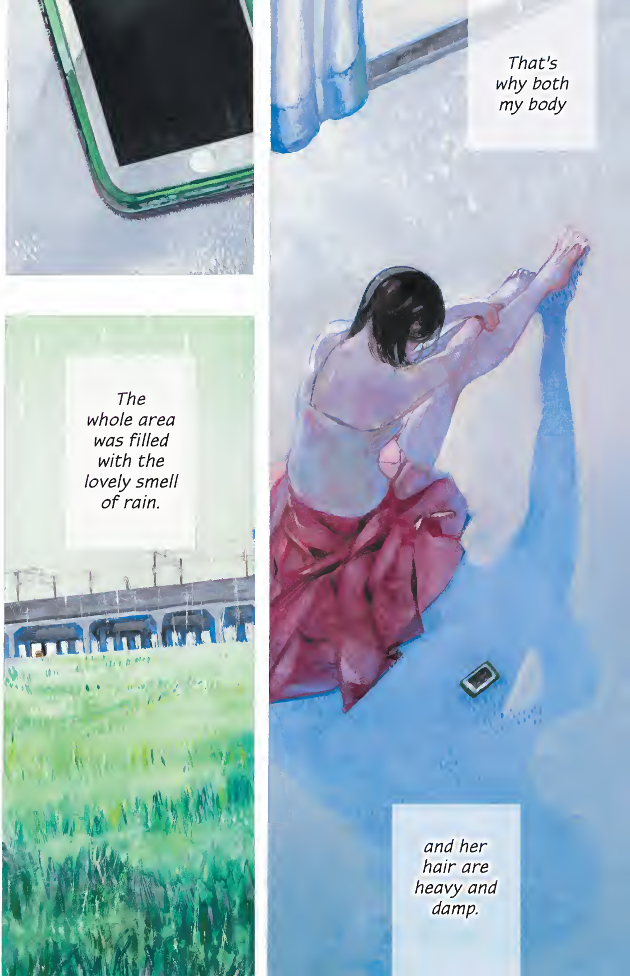

It was the start of spring.
It was raining that day.

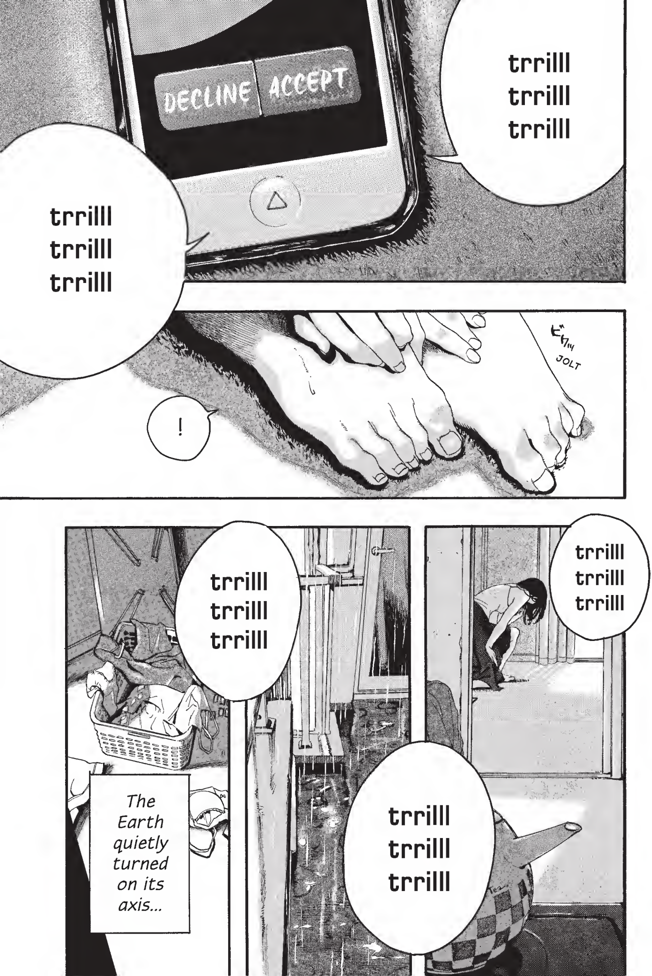


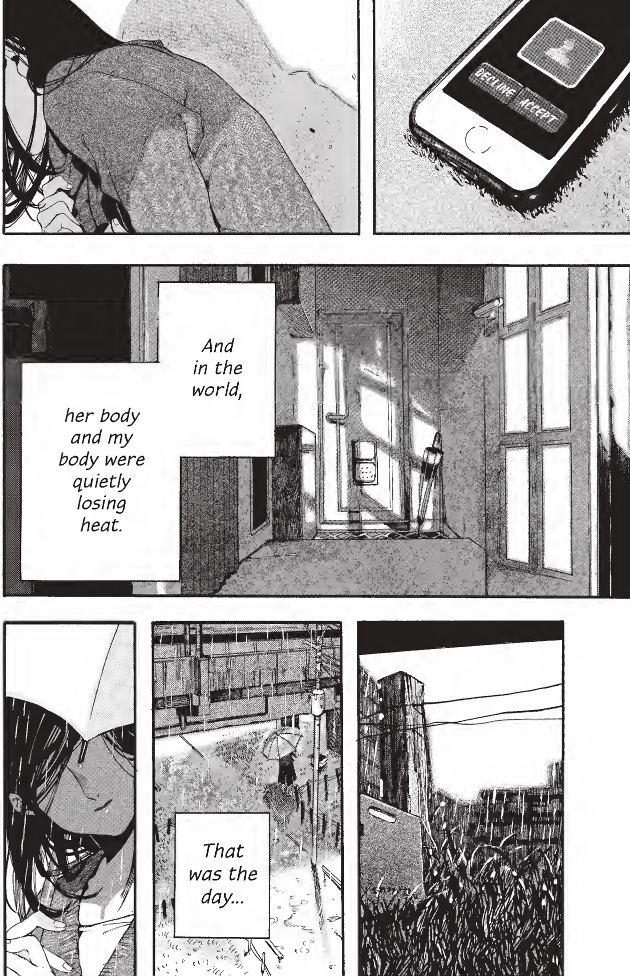
She and Her Cat

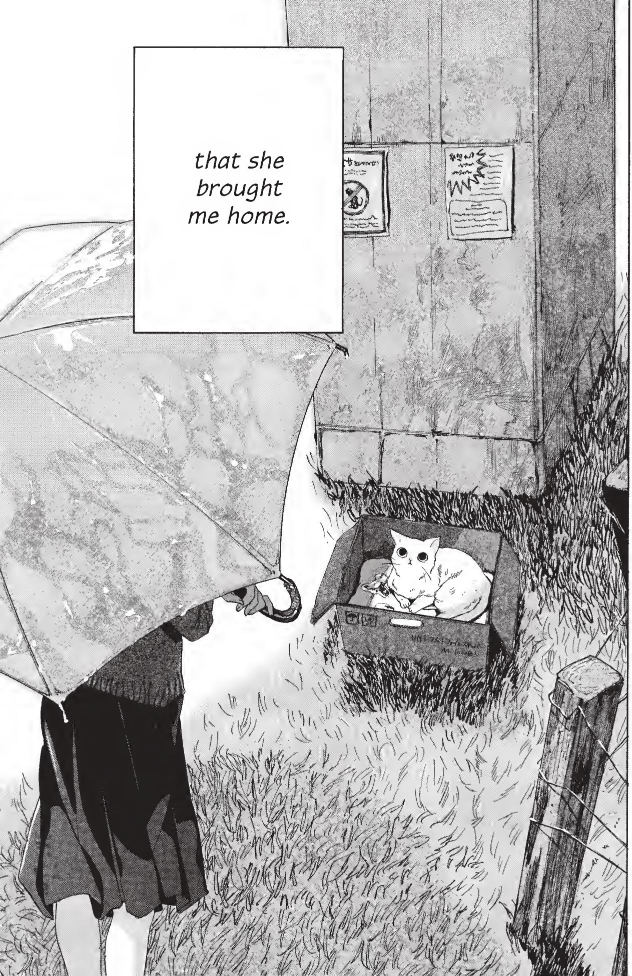
Story by Makoto Shinkai
Art by Tsubasa Yamaguchi

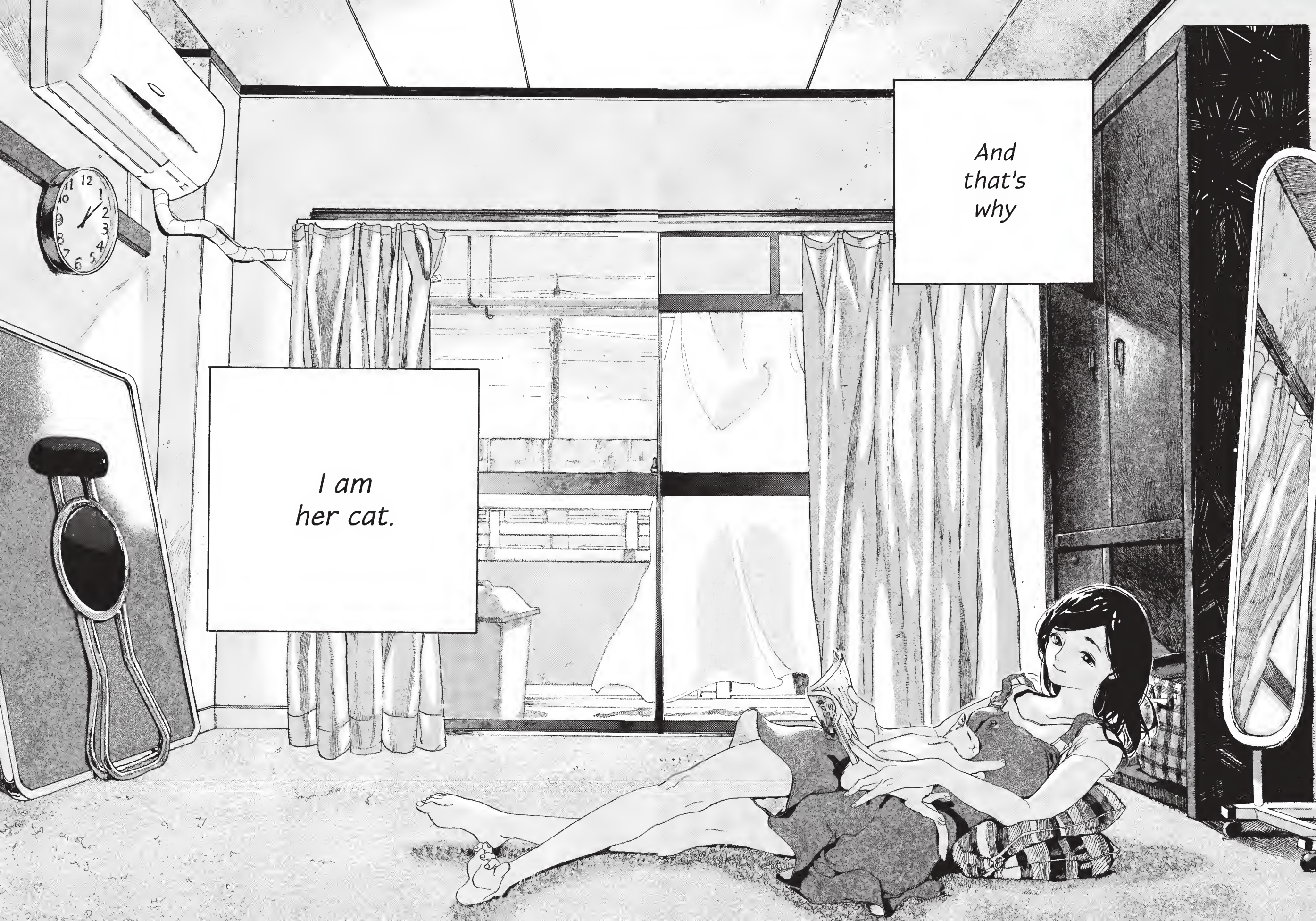
Chapter 1: “Spring Rain”

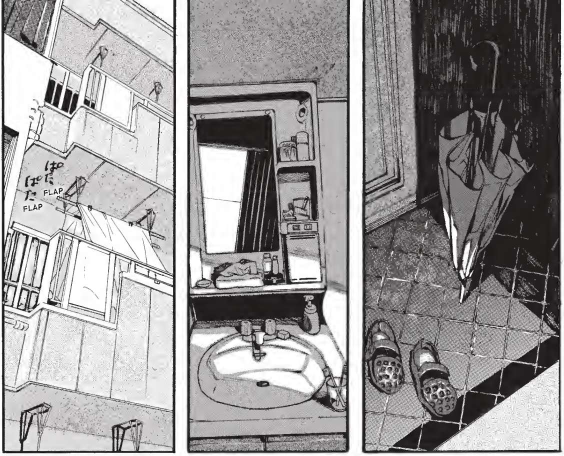

The whole area was filled with the lovely smell of rain.
That's why both my body
and her hair are heavy and damp.

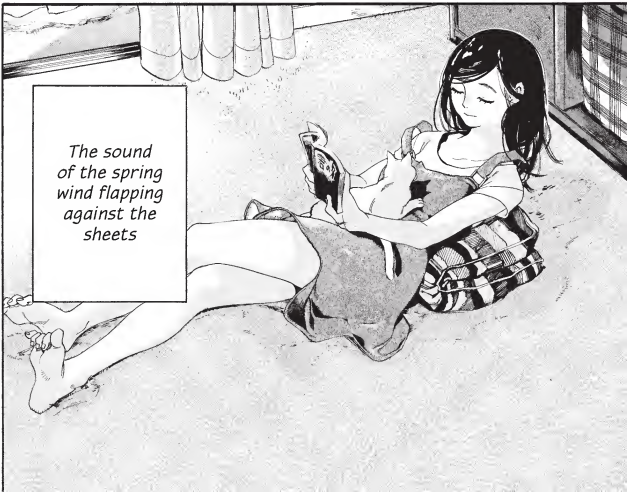

DECLINE
ACCEPT
trrilll
trrilll
trrilll
trrilll
trrilll
trrilll
ビクッ
JOLT
!
trrilll
trrilll
trrilll
trrilll
trrilll
trrilll
trrilll
trrilll
trrilll
The Earth quietly turned on its axis...

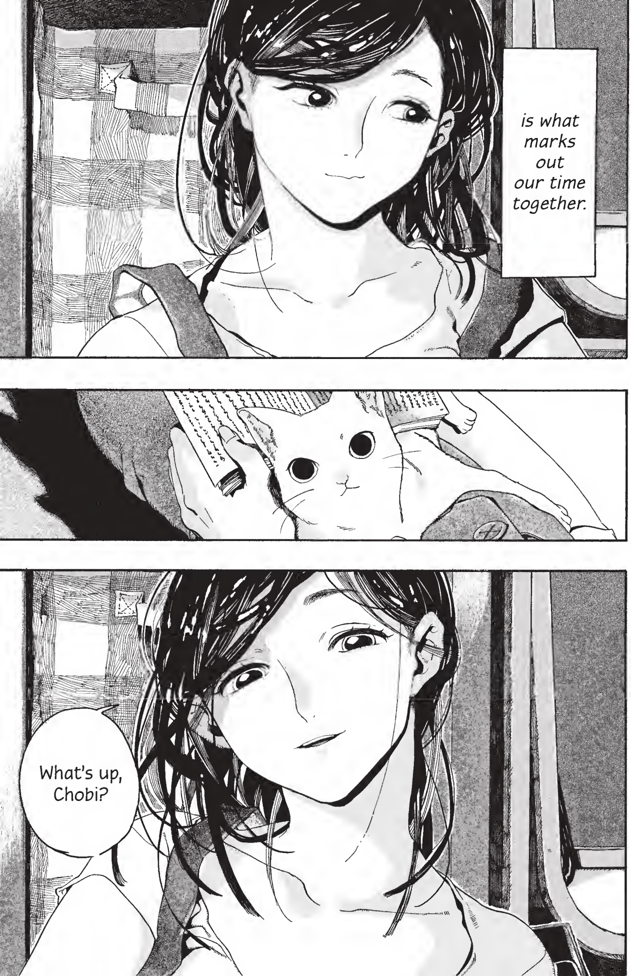

DECLINE
ACCEPT
And in the world,
her body and my body were quietly losing heat.
That was the day...

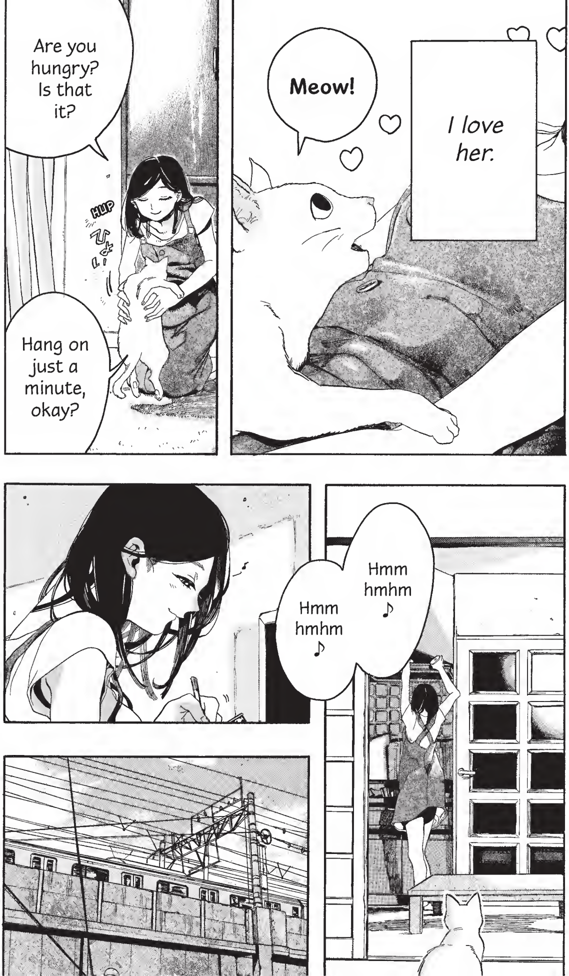

that she brought me home.

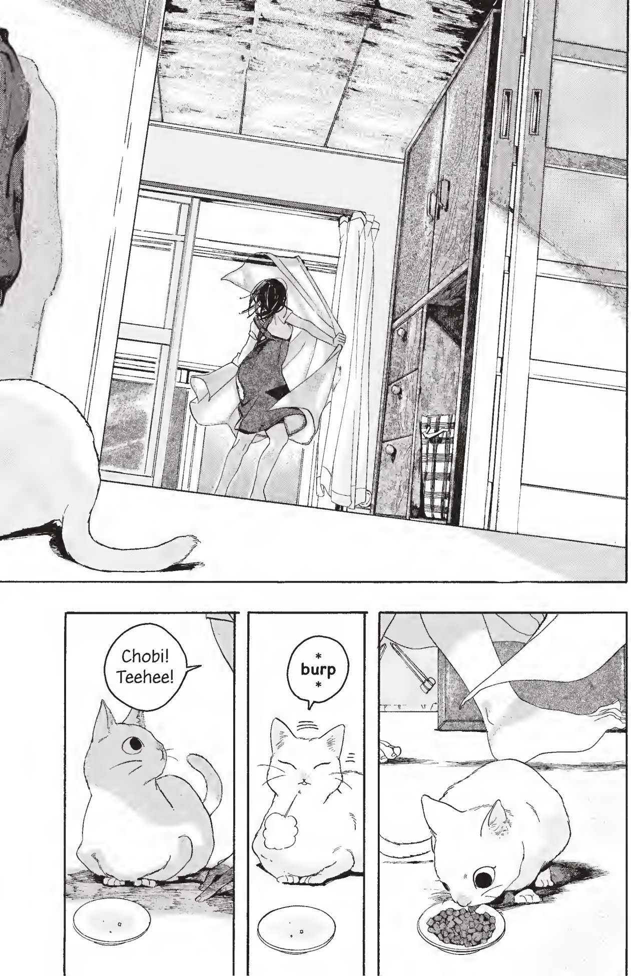

And that's why
I am her cat.

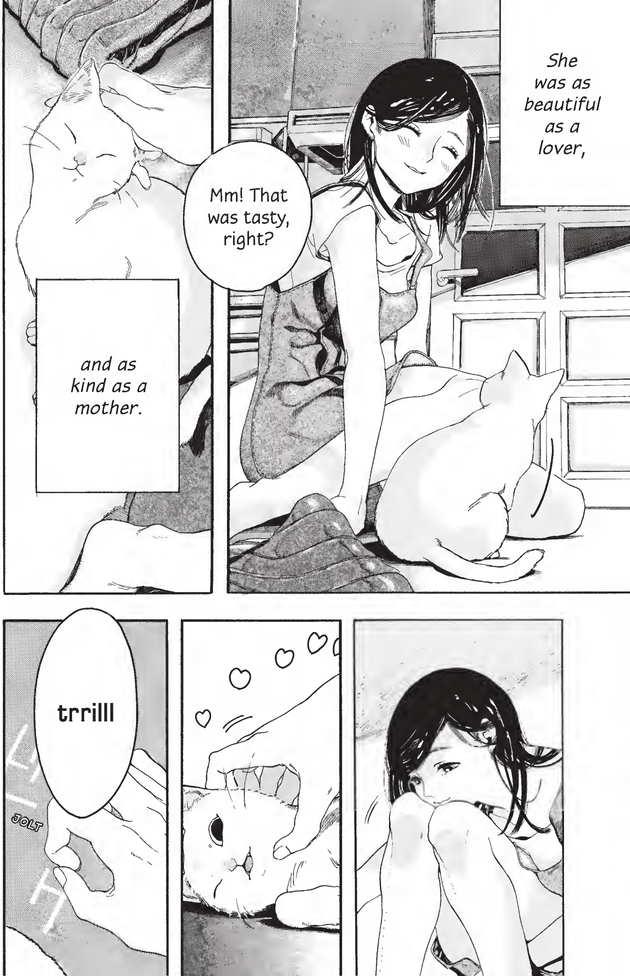

ぱた
ぱた
FLAP
FLAP

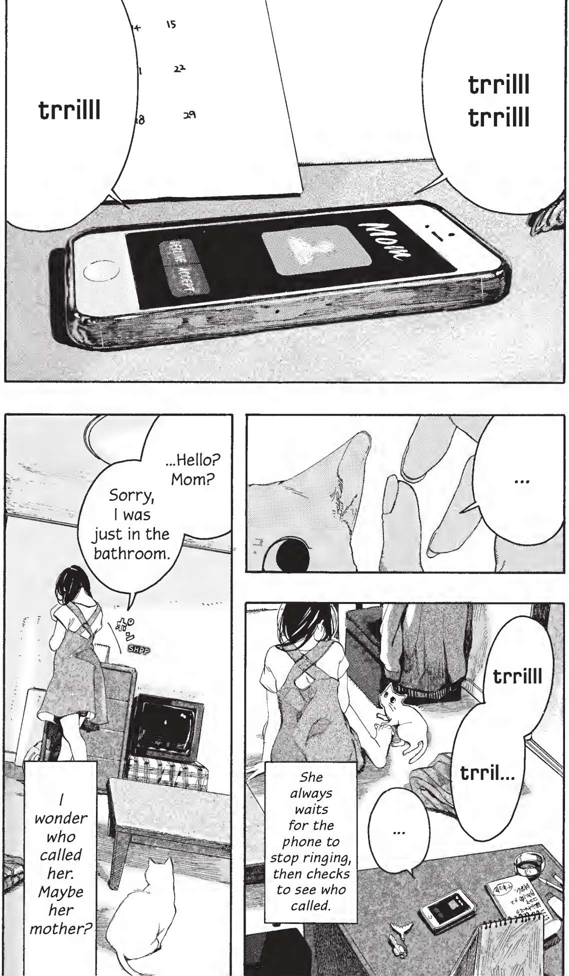

The sound of the spring wind flapping against the sheets

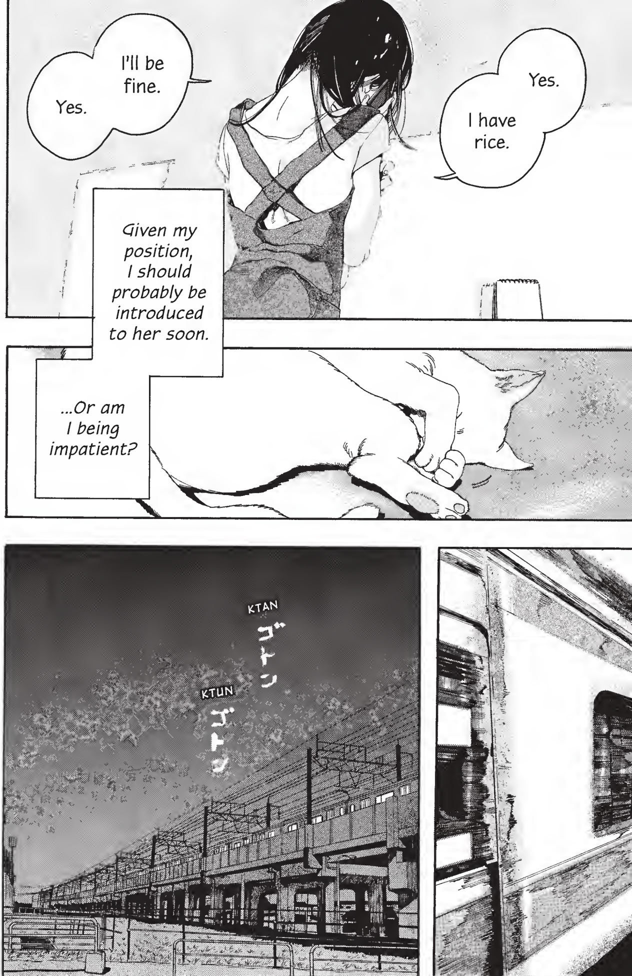

is what marks out our time together.
What's up, Chobi?

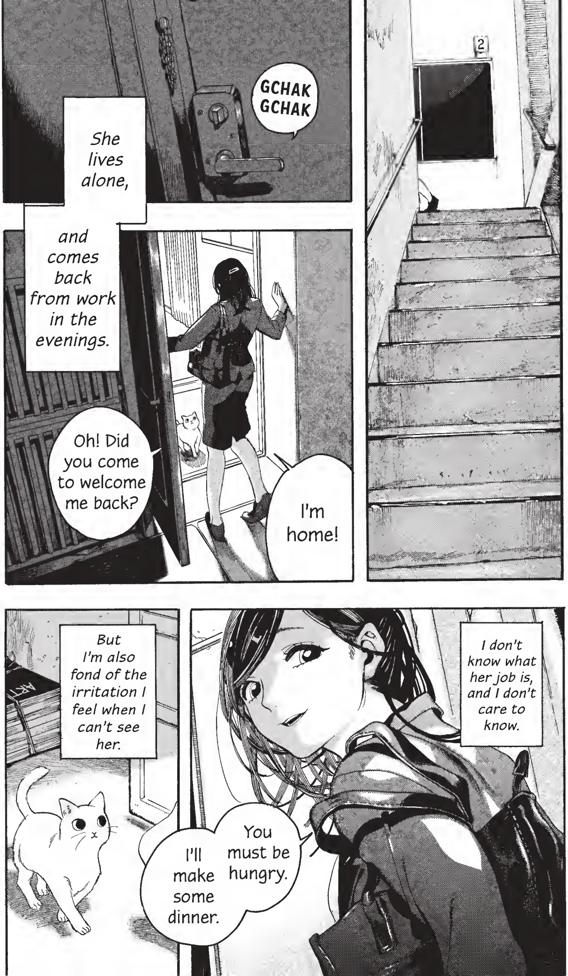

I love her.
Meow!
Are you hungry? Is that it?
HUP
ひょい
Hang on just a minute, okay?
Hmm hmhm ♪
Hmm hmhm ♪

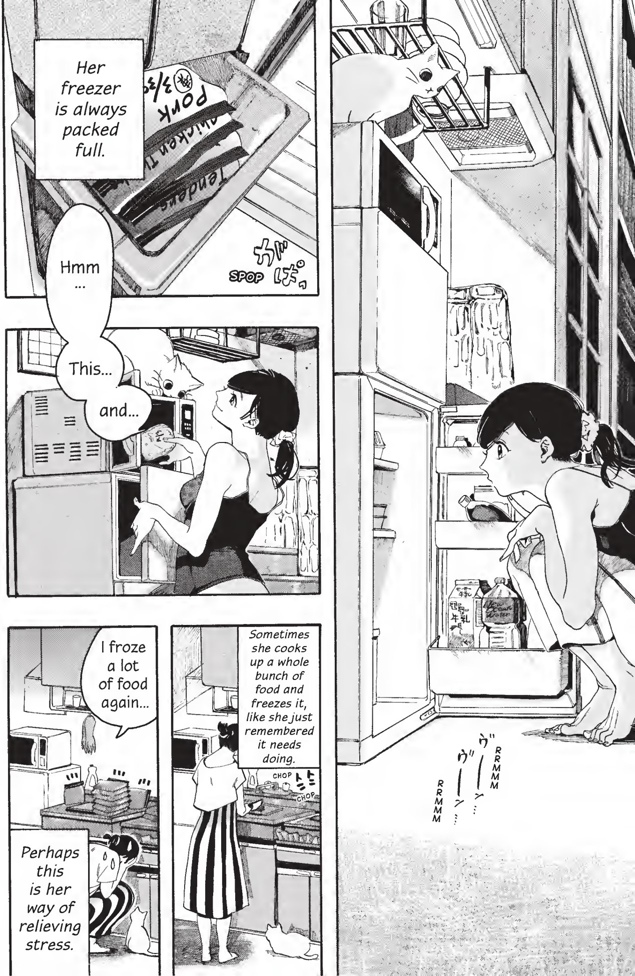

* burp *
Chobi! Teehee!

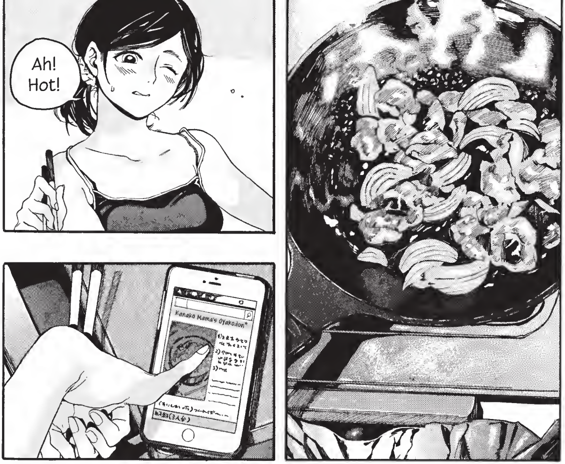

She was as beautiful as a lover,
Mm! That was tasty, right?
and as kind as a mother.
trrilll
JOLT


trrilll
trrilll
trrilll
14 15
21 22
28 29
Mom
DECLINE ACCEPT
...
trrilll
trril...
...
She always waits for the phone to stop ringing, then checks to see who called.
...Hello? Mom?
Sorry, I was just in the bathroom.
SHPP
I wonder who called her. Maybe her mother?

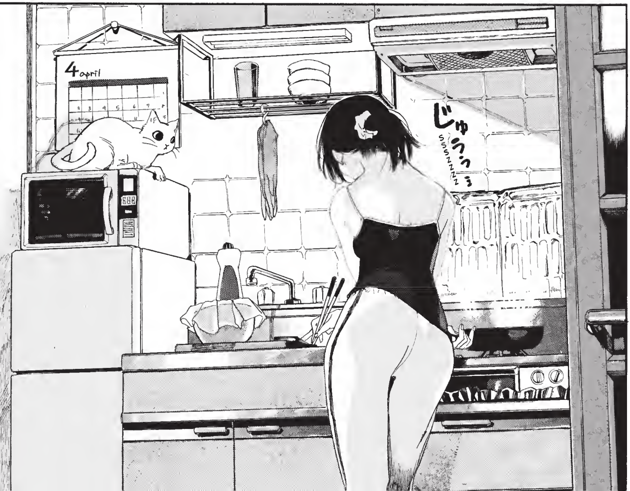

Yes. I have rice.
I'll be fine. Yes.
Given my position, I should probably be introduced to her soon.
...Or am I being impatient?
KTAN
ゴトン
KTUN
ゴトン

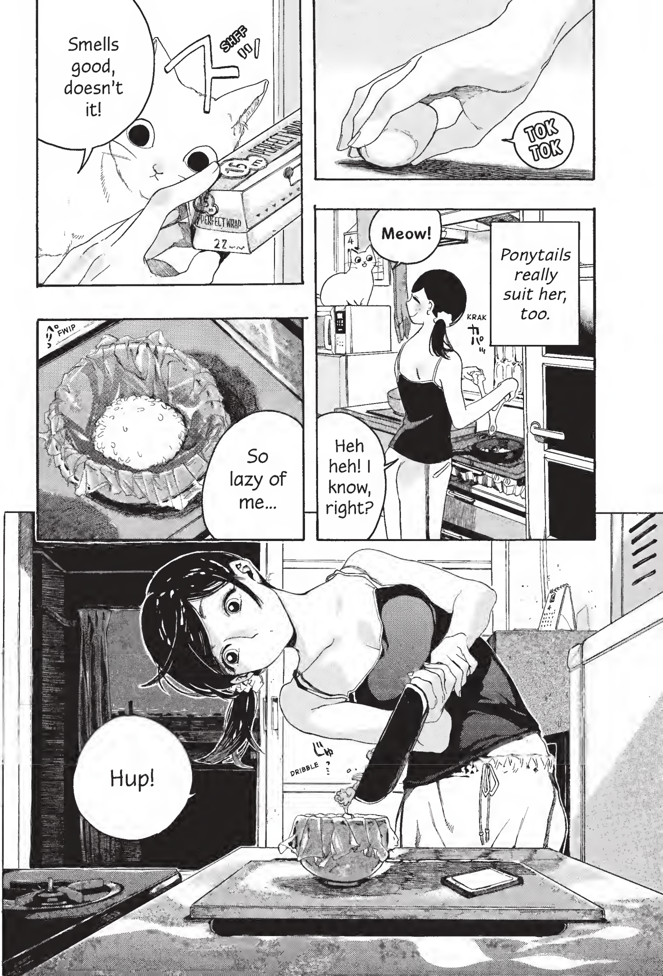

GCHAK GCHAK
She lives alone,
and comes back from work in the evenings.
I'm home!
Oh! Did you come to welcome me back?
I don't know what her job is, and I don't care to know.
You must be hungry.
I'll make some dinner.
But I'm also fond of the irritation I feel when I can't see her.

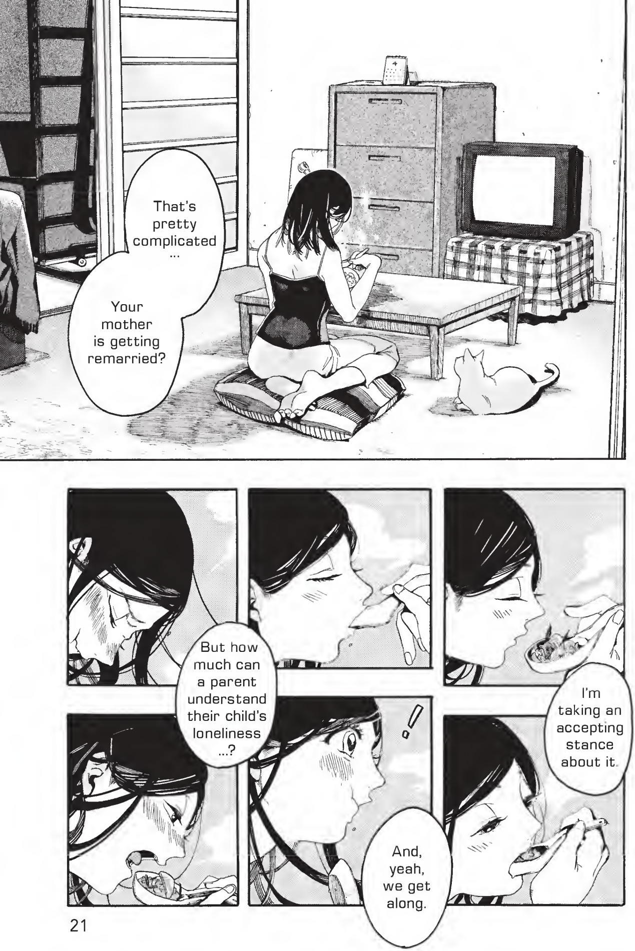

ヴ゛ー…
RRMMM
ヴ゛ー…
RRMMM
Her freezer is always packed full.
Pork 3/3
Chicken Th
Tenders
ガ
ぽっ
SPOP
Hmm…
This…
and…
Sometimes she cooks up a whole bunch of food and freezes it, like she just remembered it needs doing.
CHOP
CHOP
I froze a lot of food again…
Perhaps this is her way of relieving stress.

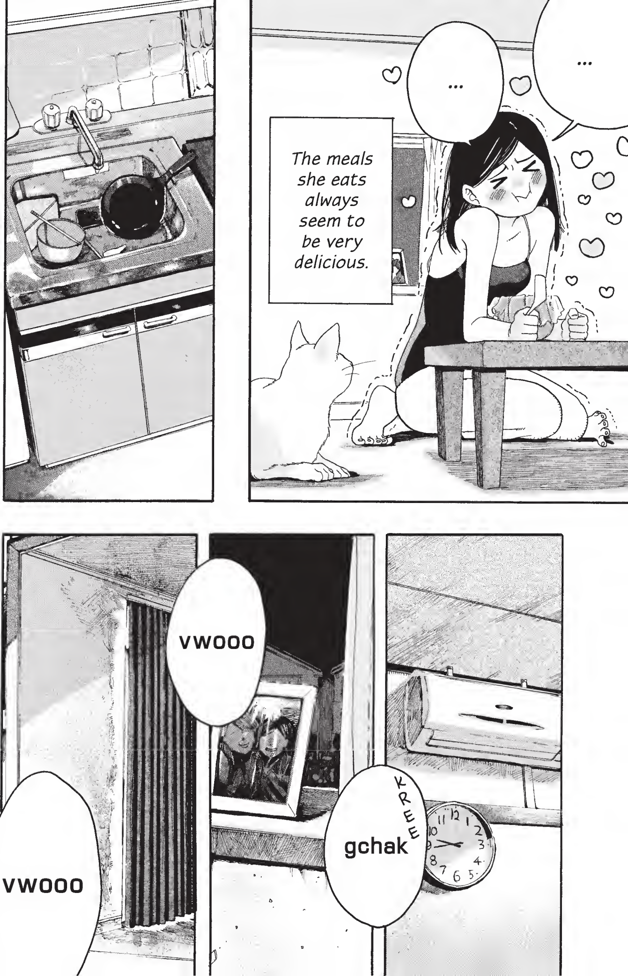

Ah! Hot!
Kanako Mama's Oyakodon*
材料(3人分)

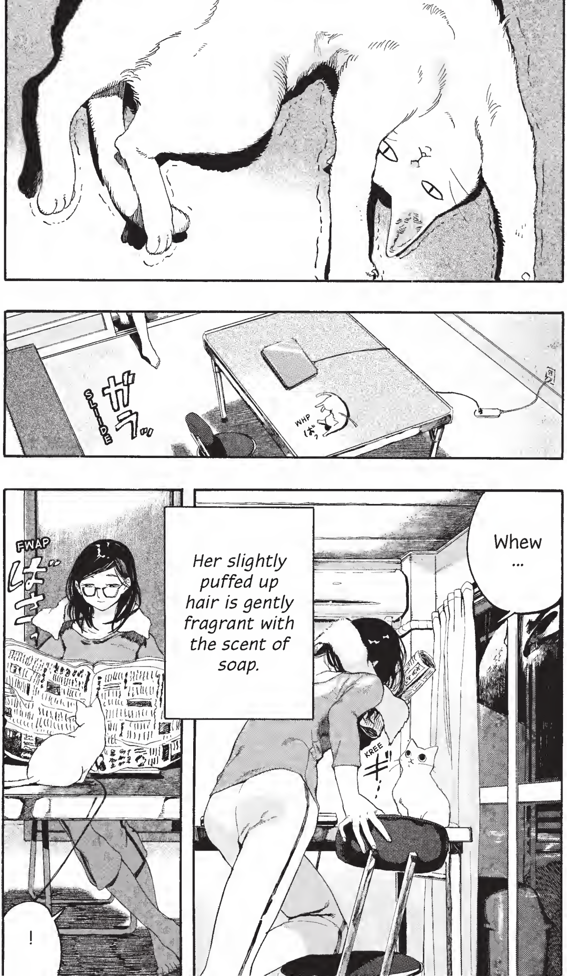
*rice bowl with chicken and egg

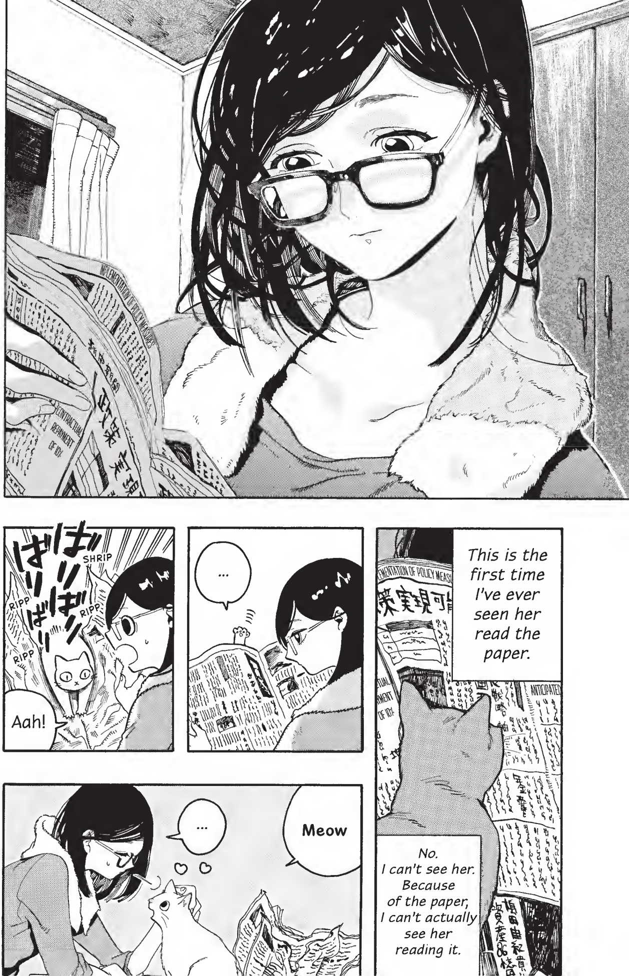

4 april
じゅううう
SSSZZZZ

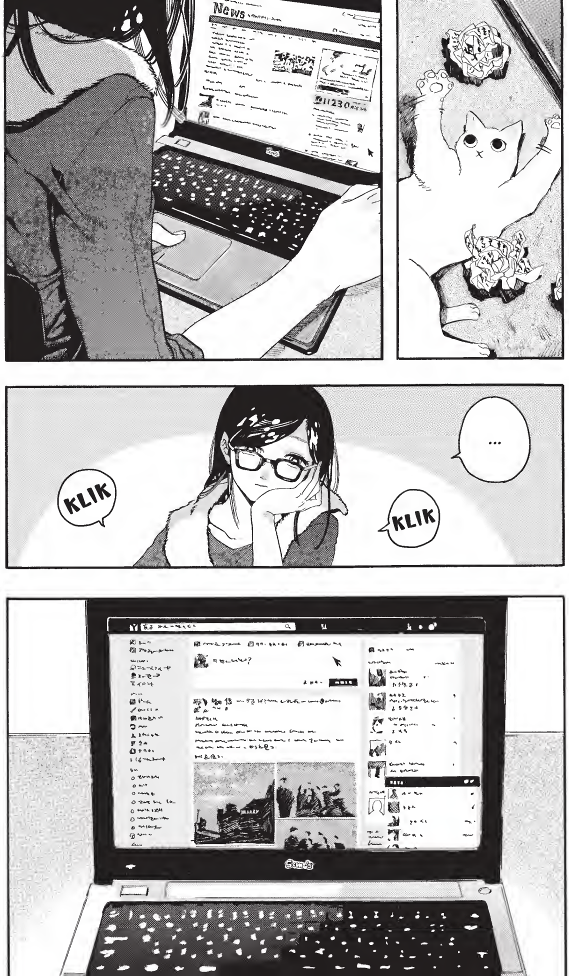

TOK TOK
SHFF
Smells good, doesn't it!
15m PERFECT WRAP
PERFECT WRAP
22
Meow!
Ponytails really suit her, too.
KRAK
Heh heh! I know, right?
FWIP
So lazy of me...
Hup!
DRIBBLE

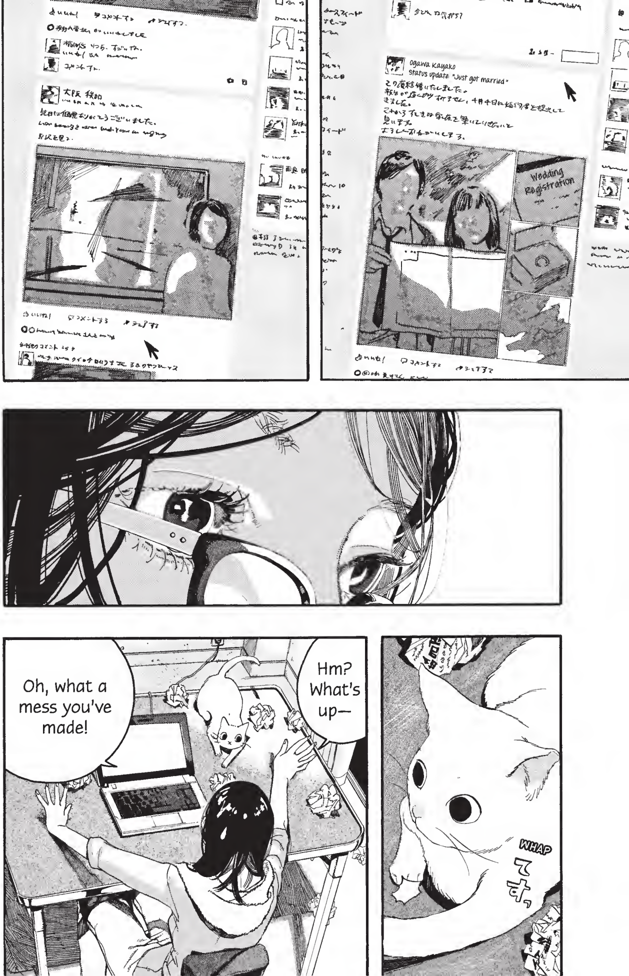

That's pretty complicated…
Your mother is getting remarried?
I'm taking an accepting stance about it.
And, yeah, we get along.
But how much can a parent understand their child's loneliness…?
!

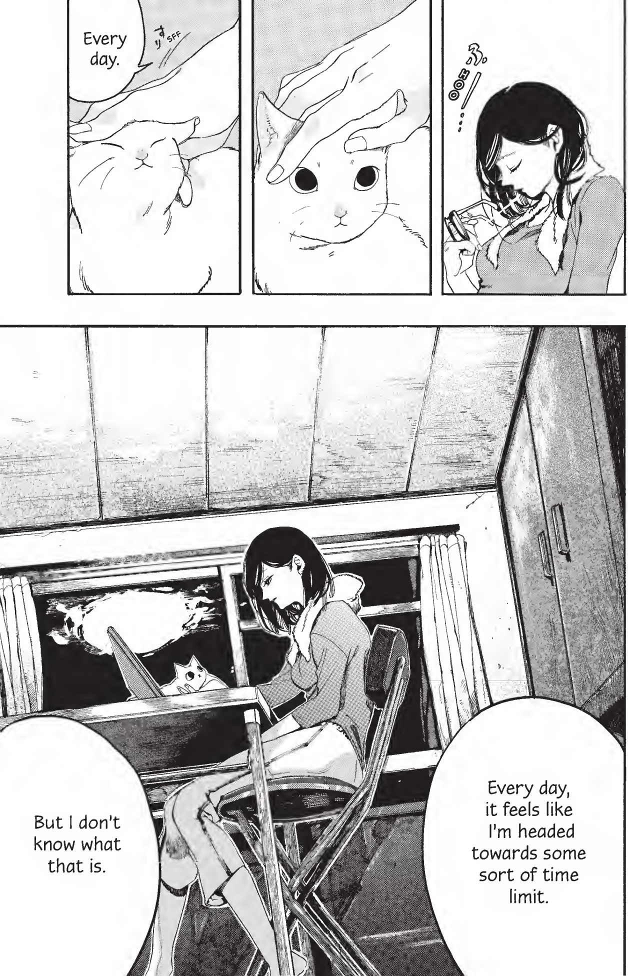

...
...
The meals she eats always seem to be very delicious.
KREE
gchak
VWOOO
VWOOO

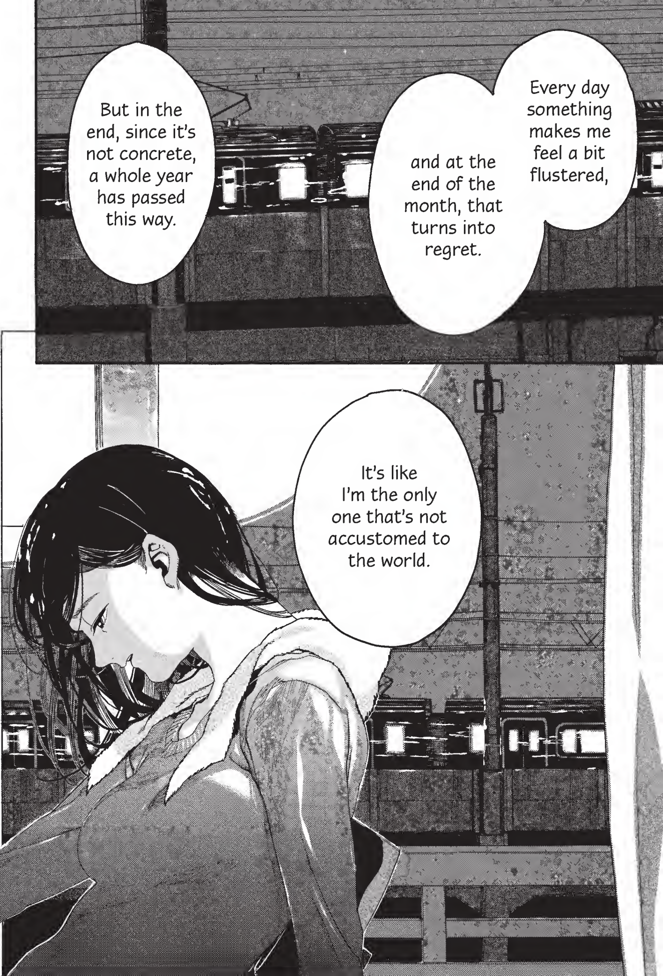

SLIDE
ガラッ
WHP
ぼっ
Whew …
Her slightly puffed up hair is gently fragrant with the scent of soap.
KREE
ギ
FWAP
ばさ
!

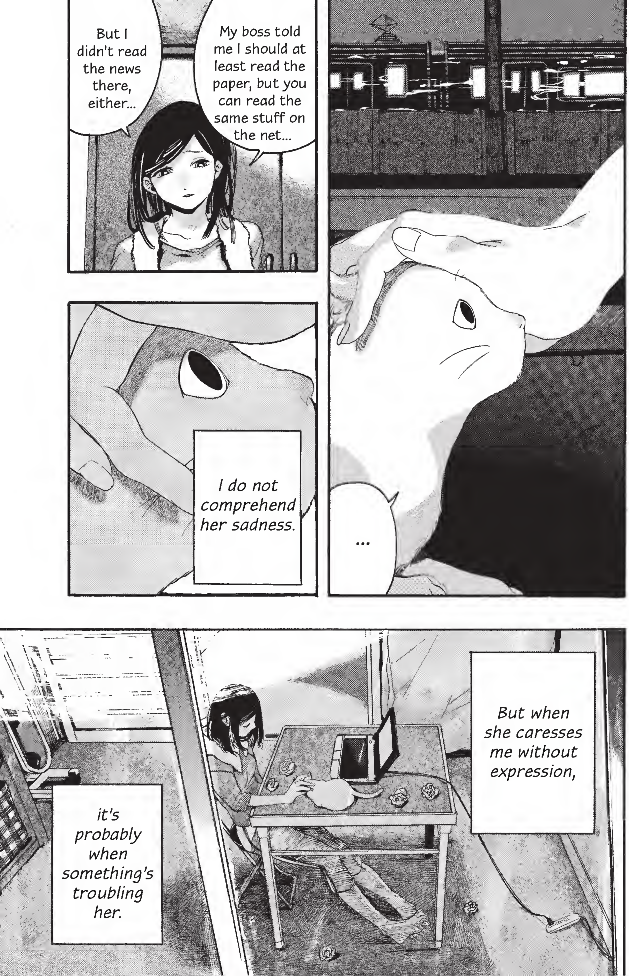

IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY MEASURES
CONTRACTUAL REPAYMENT OF 10%
This is the first time I've ever seen her read the paper.
ANTICIPATED
...
ばりばりばりばり
SHRIP
RIPP
RIPP
RIPP
Aah!
No. I can't see her. Because of the paper, I can't actually see her reading it.
Meow
...

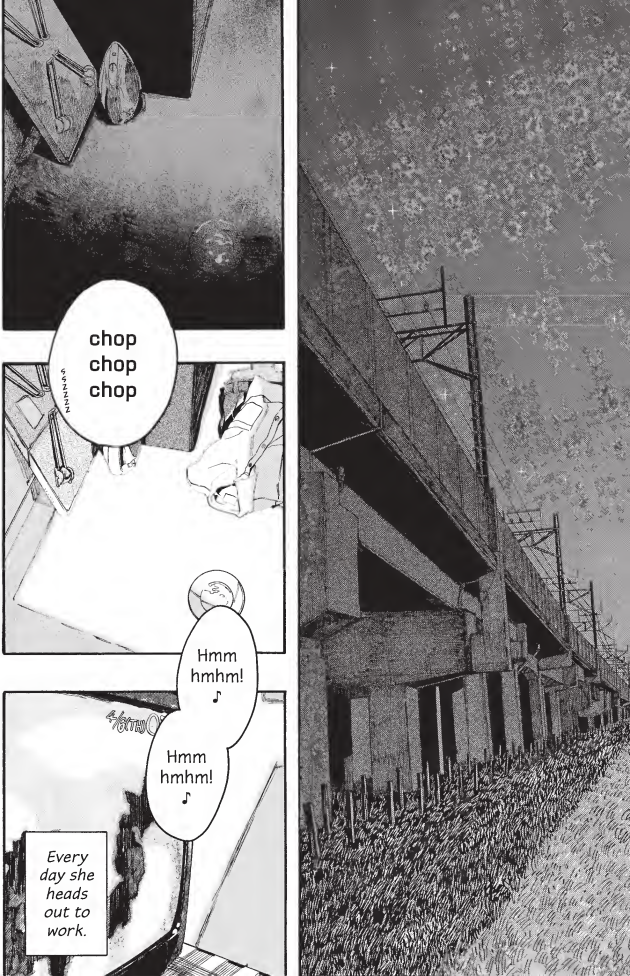

News
...
KLIK
KLIK

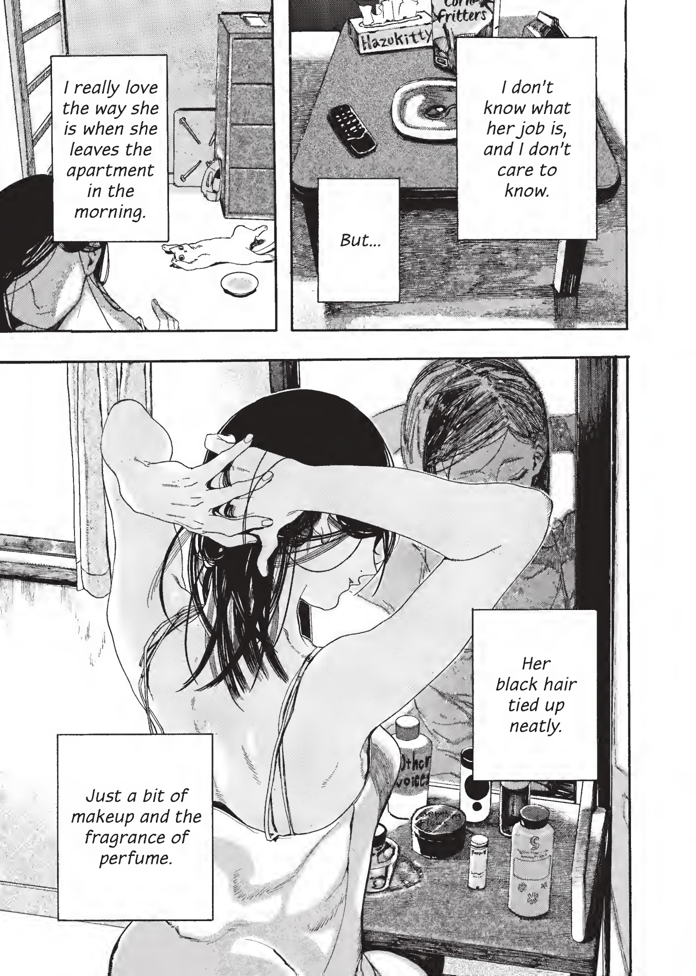

ogawa kayako
status update "Just got married"
この度結婚いたしました。
Wedding Registration
Hm? What's up—
Oh, what a mess you've made!
WHAP
てすっ

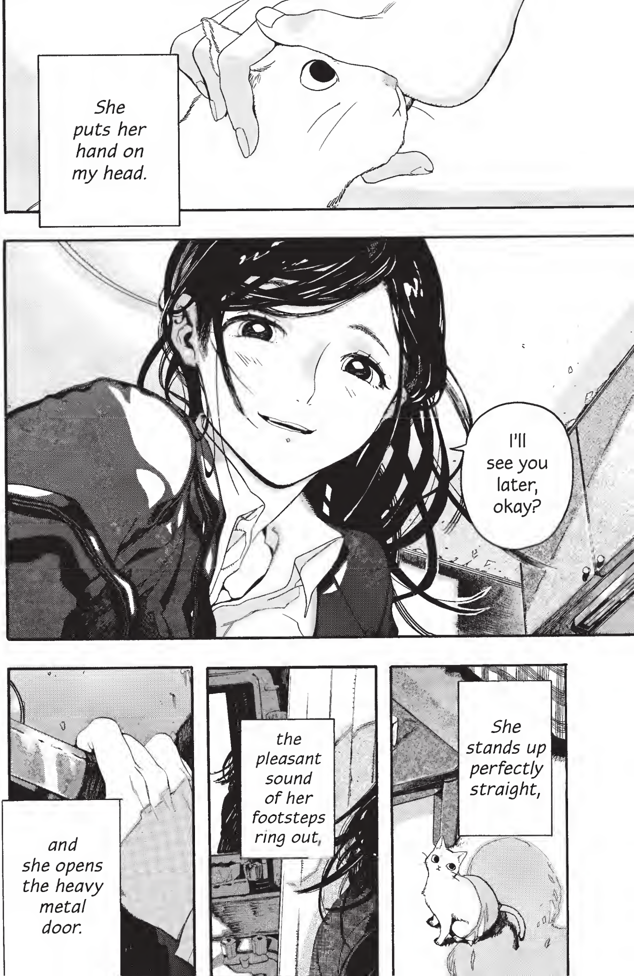

ふ HOOO...
Every day.
すり SFF
Every day, it feels like I'm headed towards some sort of time limit.
But I don't know what that is.

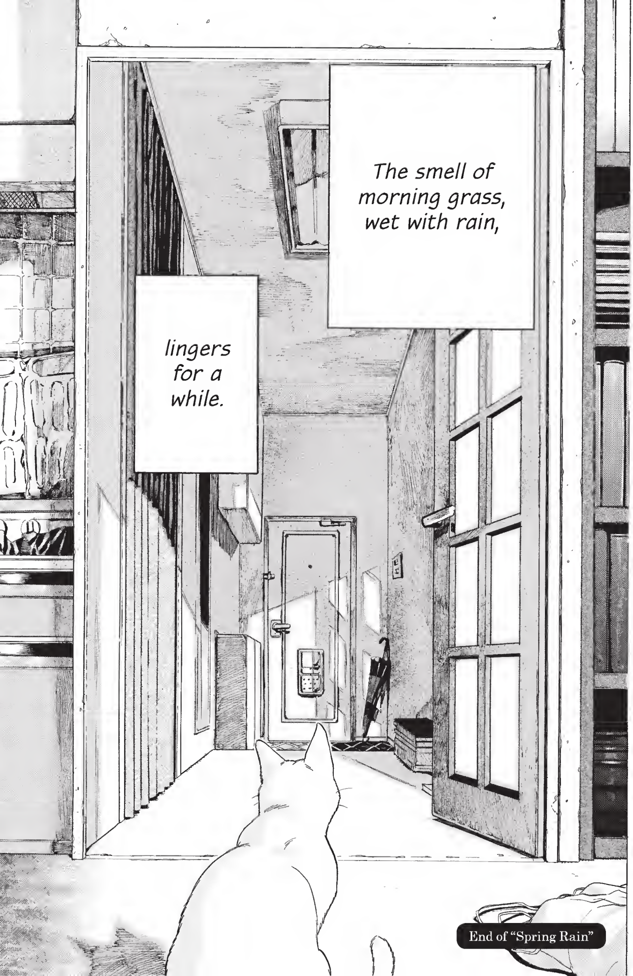

Every day something makes me feel a bit flustered,
and at the end of the month, that turns into regret.
But in the end, since it's not concrete, a whole year has passed this way.
It's like I'm the only one that's not accustomed to the world.

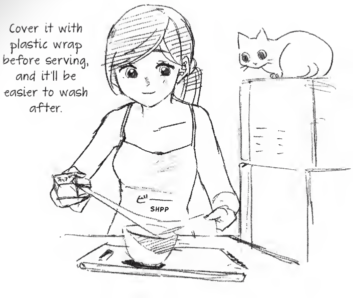

...
My boss told me I should at least read the paper, but you can read the same stuff on the net...
But I didn't read the news there, either...
I do not comprehend her sadness.
But when she caresses me without expression,
it's probably when something's troubling her.

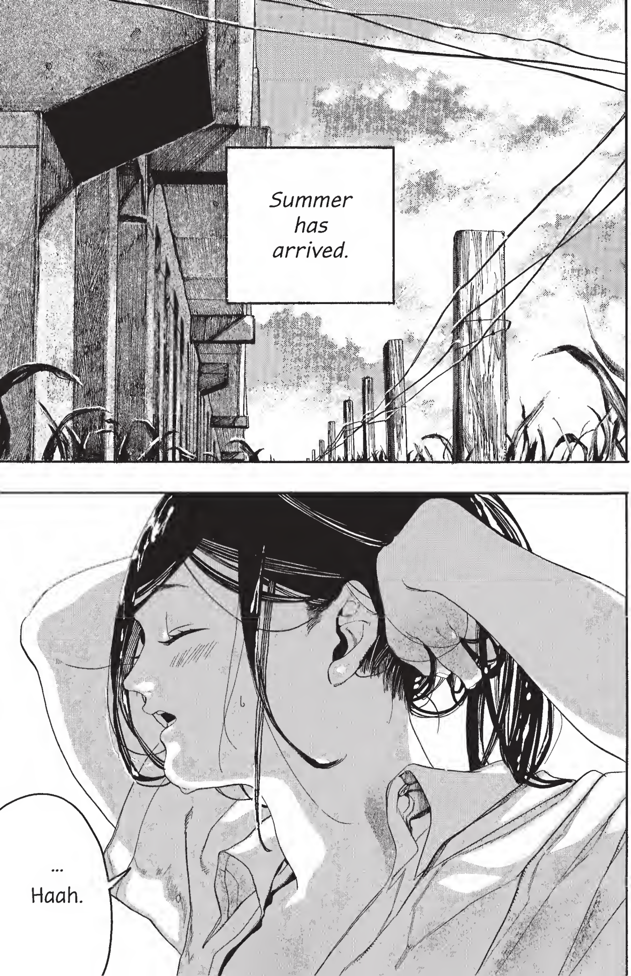

chop chop chop
zzzzzz
Hmm hmhm! ♪
Hmm hmhm! ♪
4/6(TH)
Every day she heads out to work.

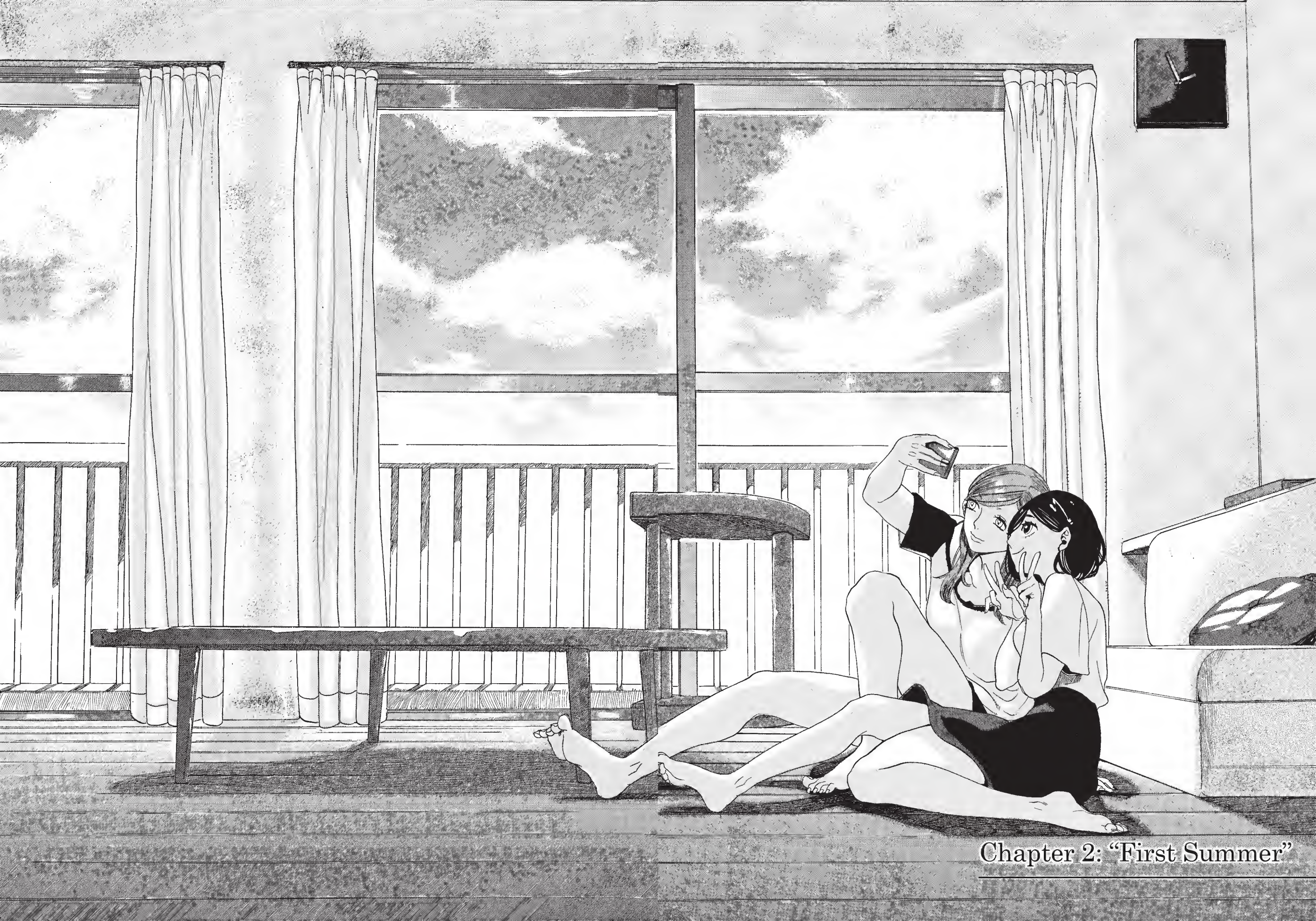

Corn Fritters
Hazukitty
I don't know what her job is, and I don't care to know.
But...
I really love the way she is when she leaves the apartment in the morning.
Her black hair tied up neatly.
Just a bit of makeup and the fragrance of perfume.
Other Voices


She puts her hand on my head.
I'll see you later, okay?
She stands up perfectly straight,
the pleasant sound of her footsteps ring out,
and she opens the heavy metal door.

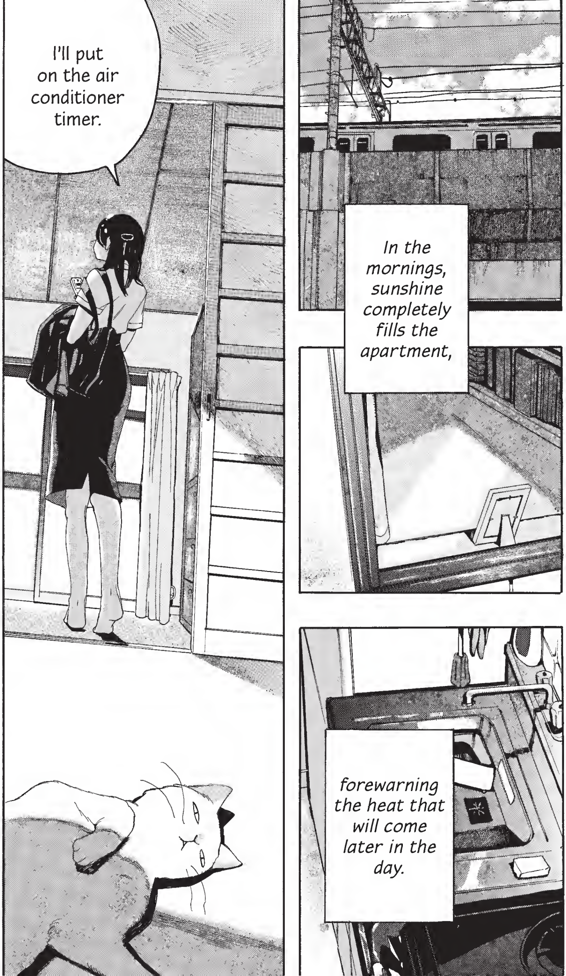

The smell of morning grass, wet with rain,
lingers for a while.
End of "Spring Rain"

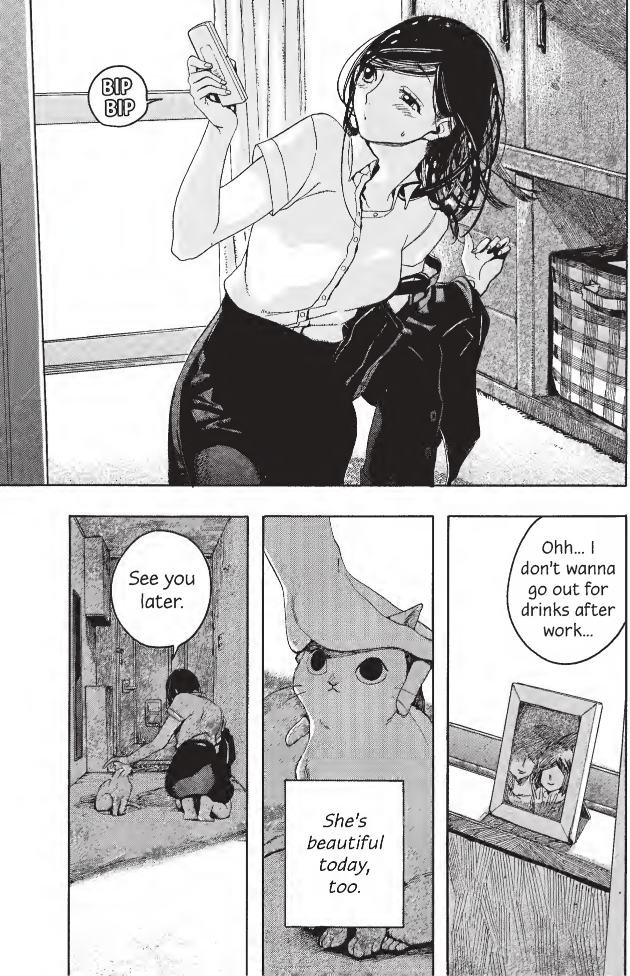

Cover it with plastic wrap before serving, and it'll be easier to wash after.
ビー
SHPP

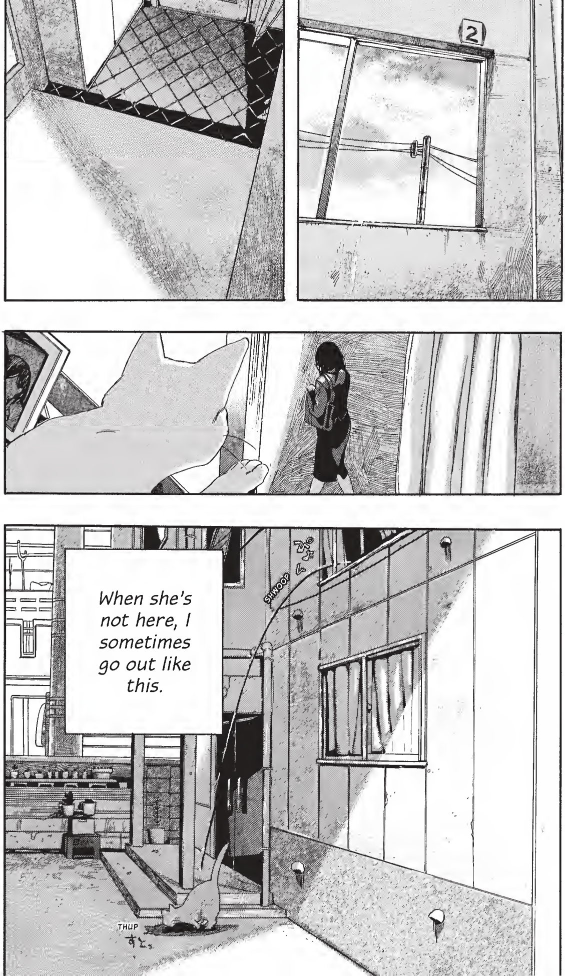

Summer has arrived.
... Haah.

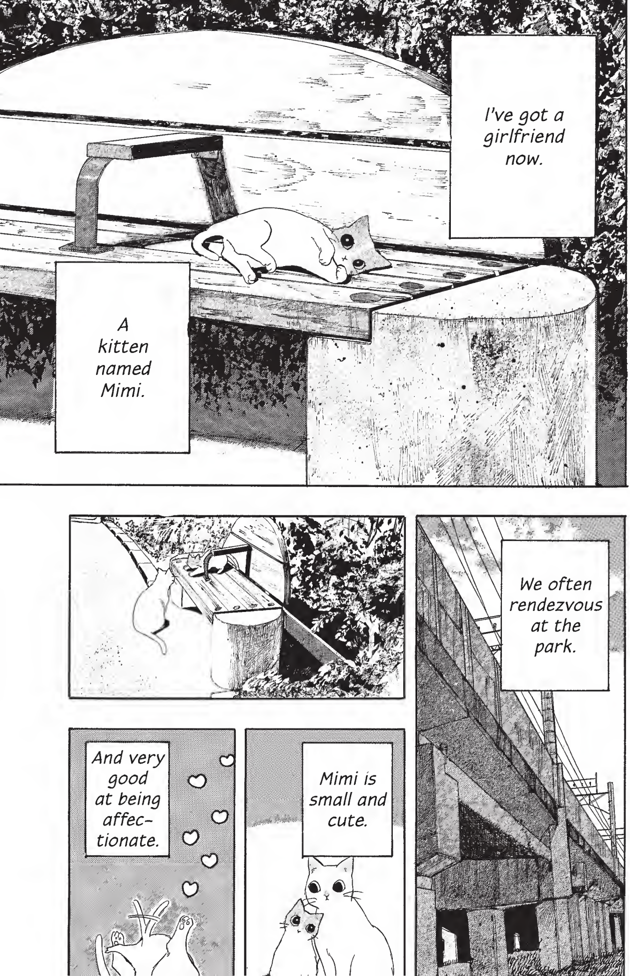


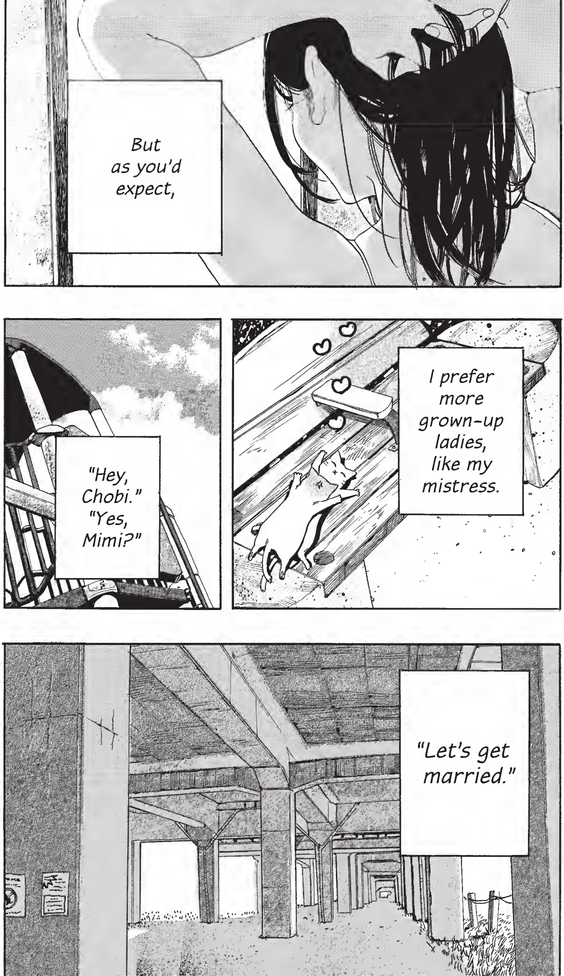
Chapter 2: “First Summer”

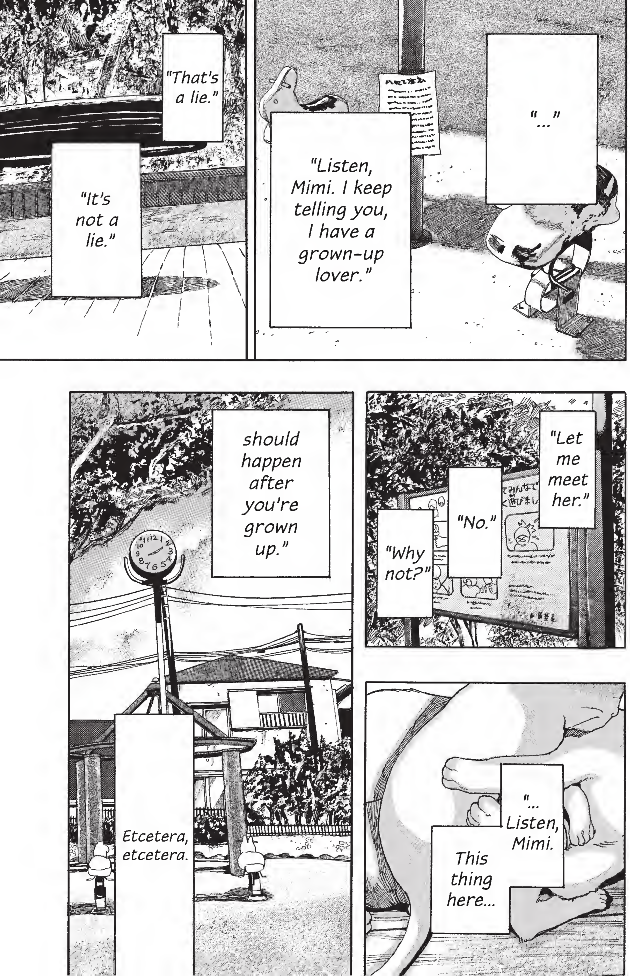

In the mornings, sunshine completely fills the apartment,
forewarning the heat that will come later in the day.
I'll put on the air conditioner timer.

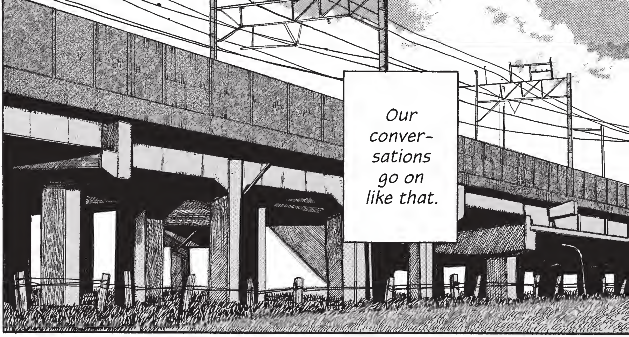

BIP BIP
Ohh... I don't wanna go out for drinks after work...
She's beautiful today, too.
See you later.

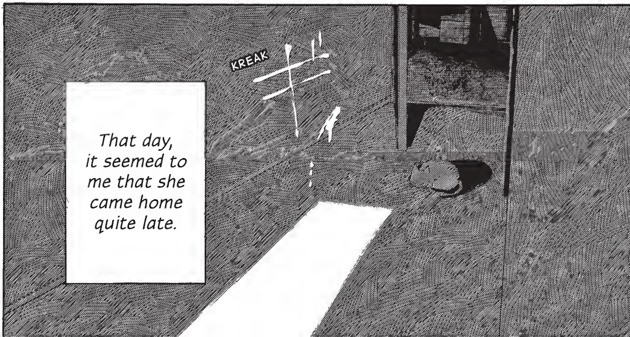

2
ぴょん
SHWOOP
When she's not here, I sometimes go out like this.
THUP
すとっ

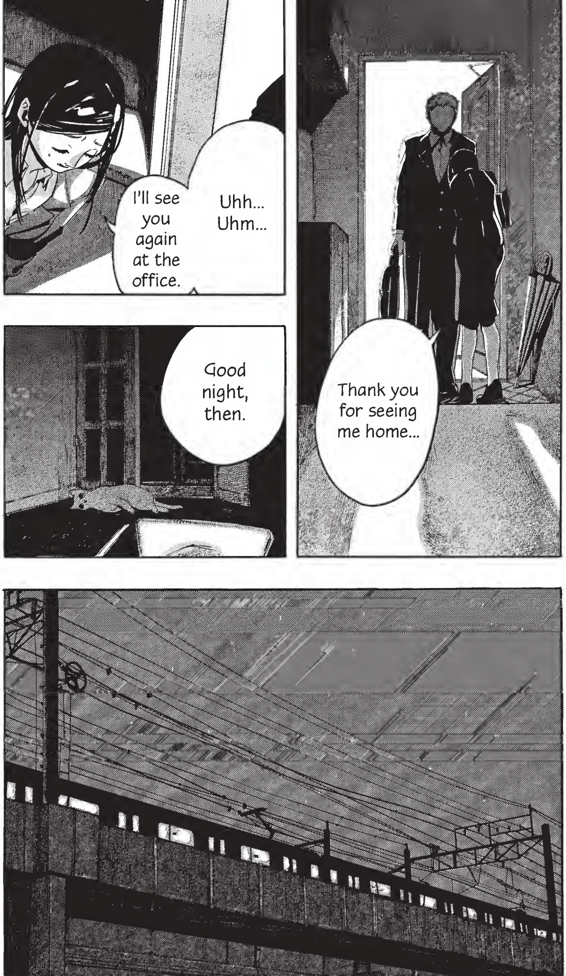

I've got a girlfriend now.
A kitten named Mimi.
We often rendezvous at the park.
Mimi is small and cute.
And very good at being affectionate.

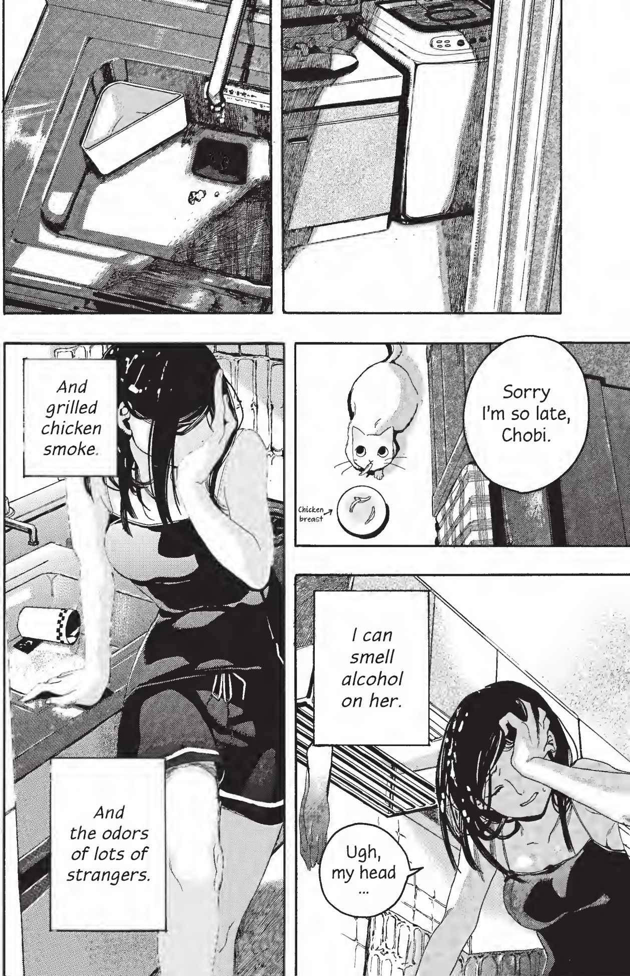

But as you'd expect,
I prefer more grown-up ladies, like my mistress.
"Hey, Chobi." "Yes, Mimi?"
"Let's get married."

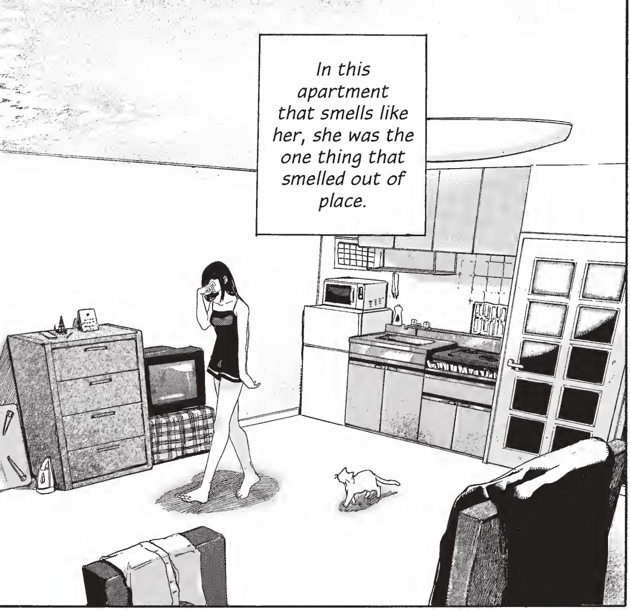

"…"
"Listen, Mimi. I keep telling you, I have a grown-up lover."
"That's a lie."
"It's not a lie."
"Let me meet her."
"No."
"Why not?"
"… Listen, Mimi.
This thing here…
should happen after you're grown up."
Etcetera, etcetera.

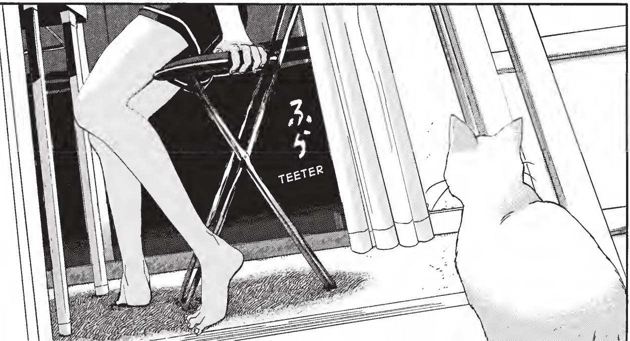

Our conversations go on like that.

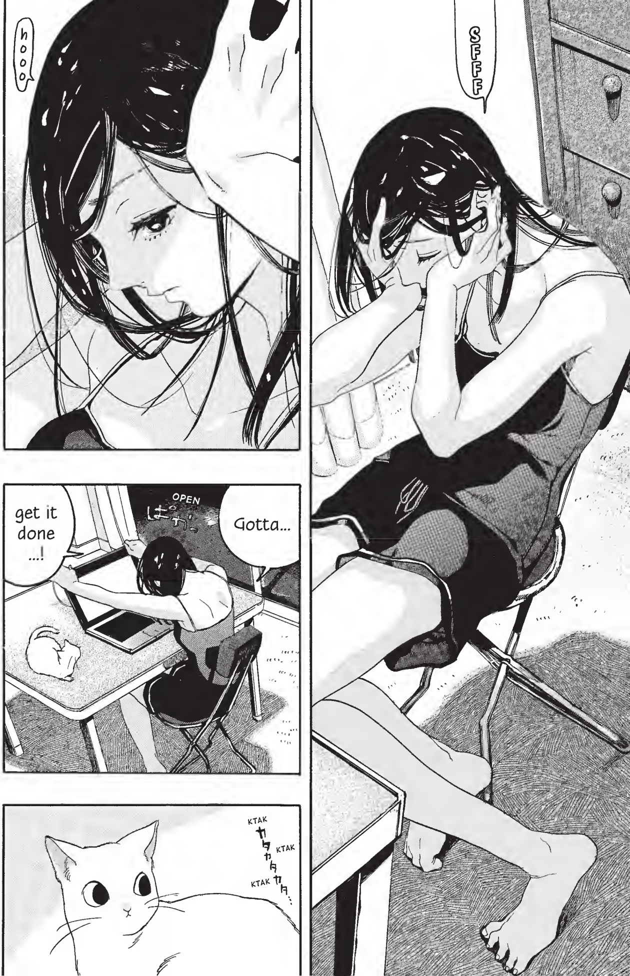

KREAK
ギィ
That day, it seemed to me that she came home quite late.

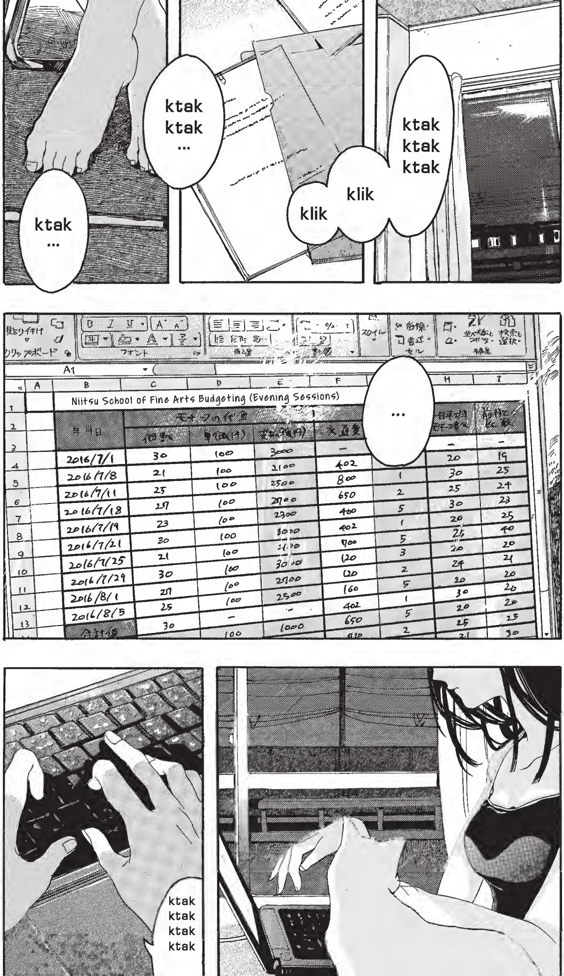

Thank you for seeing me home...
Uhh... Uhm...
I'll see you again at the office.
Good night, then.

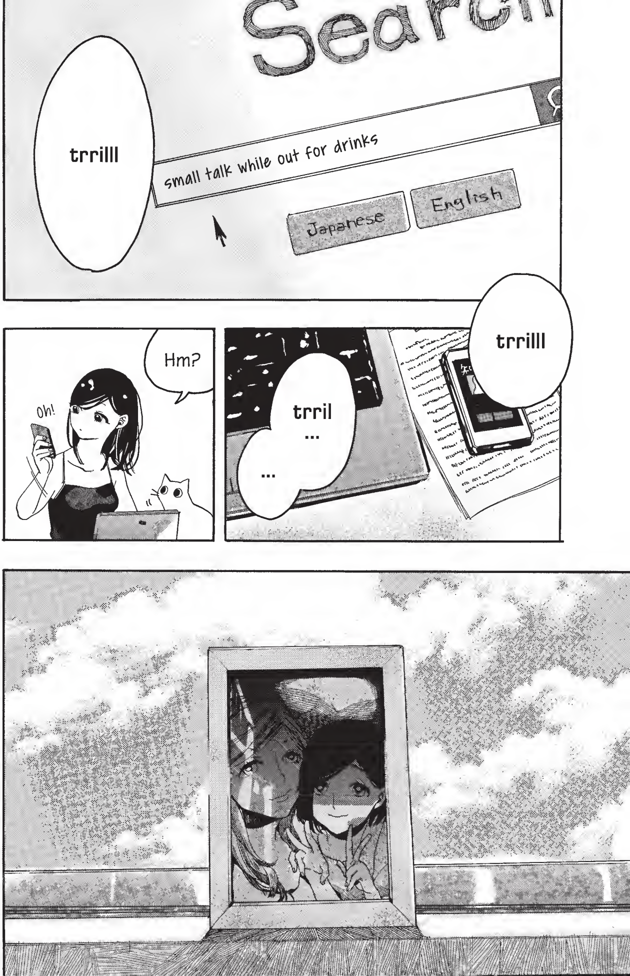

Sorry I'm so late, Chobi.
Chicken breast
I can smell alcohol on her.
Ugh, my head ...
And grilled chicken smoke.
And the odors of lots of strangers.

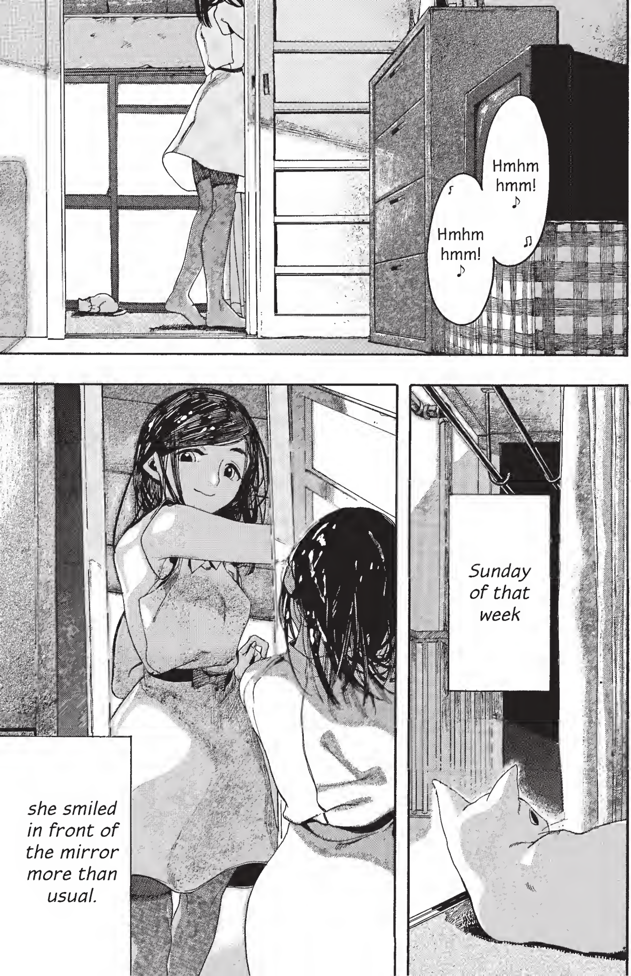

In this apartment that smells like her, she was the one thing that smelled out of place.

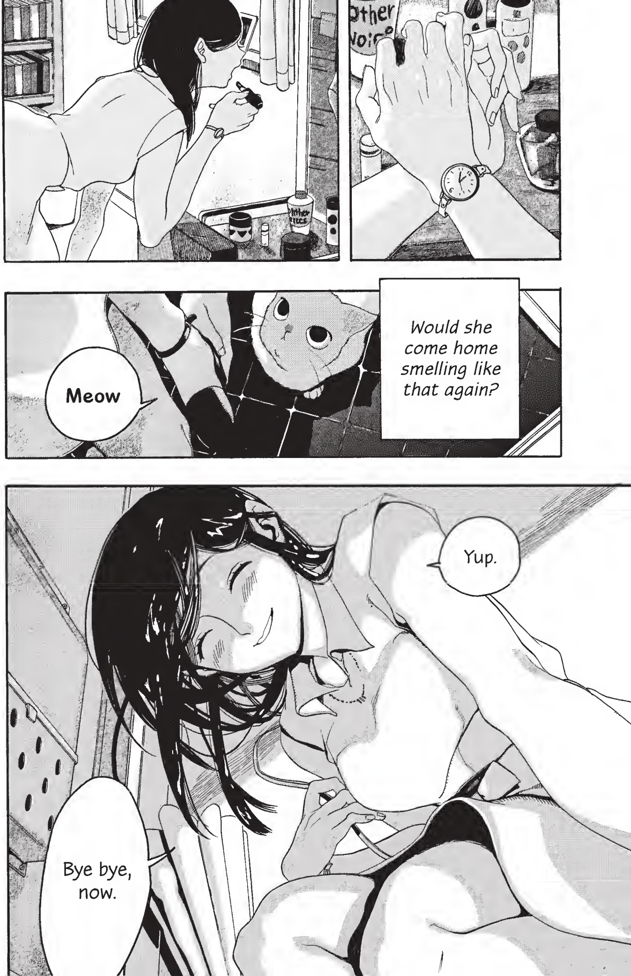

ふら
TEETER

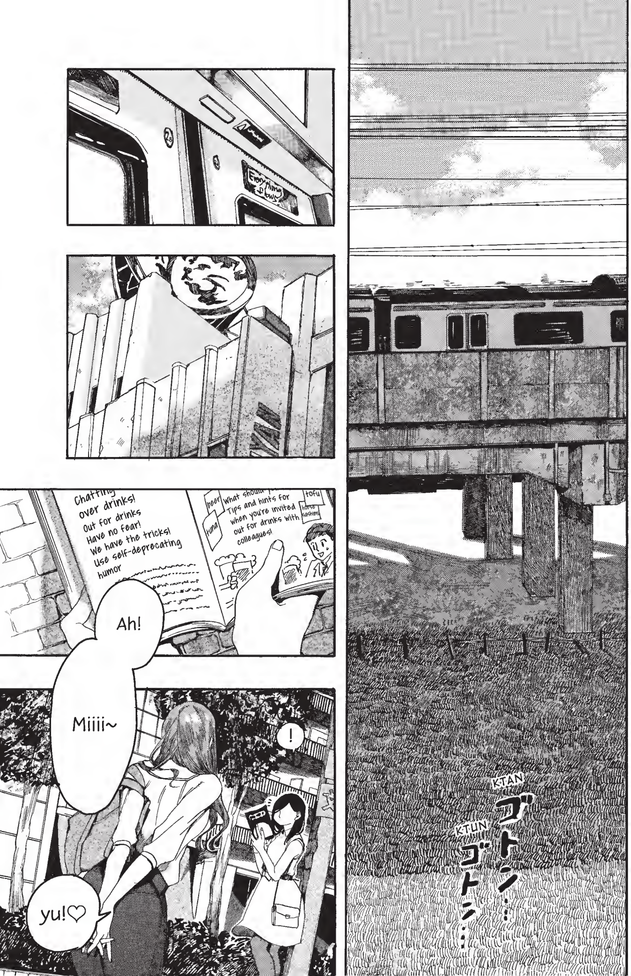

SFFF
hooo
Gotta...
get it done ...!
OPEN
ぱかっ
KTAK
カタ
KTAK
カタ
KTAK
カタ...

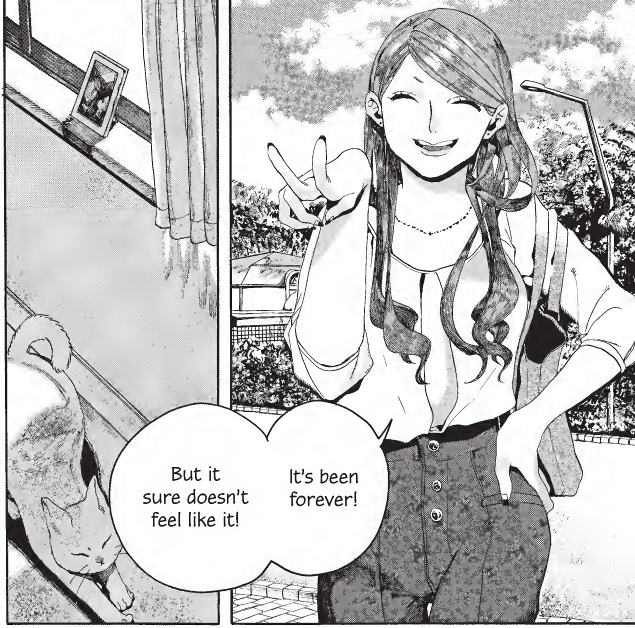

ktak
ktak
ktak
klik
klik
ktak
ktak
…
ktak
…
Niitsu School of Fine Arts Budgeting (Evening Sessions)
…
ktak
ktak
ktak
ktak

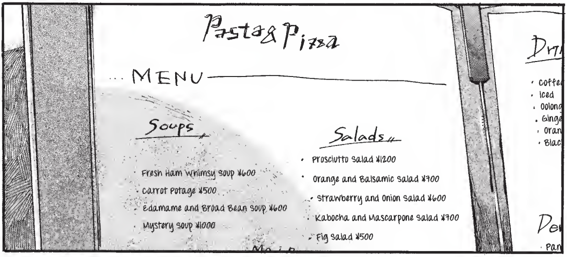

Search
small talk while out for drinks
English
Japanese
trrilll
trrilll
trril
...
...
Hm?
Oh!

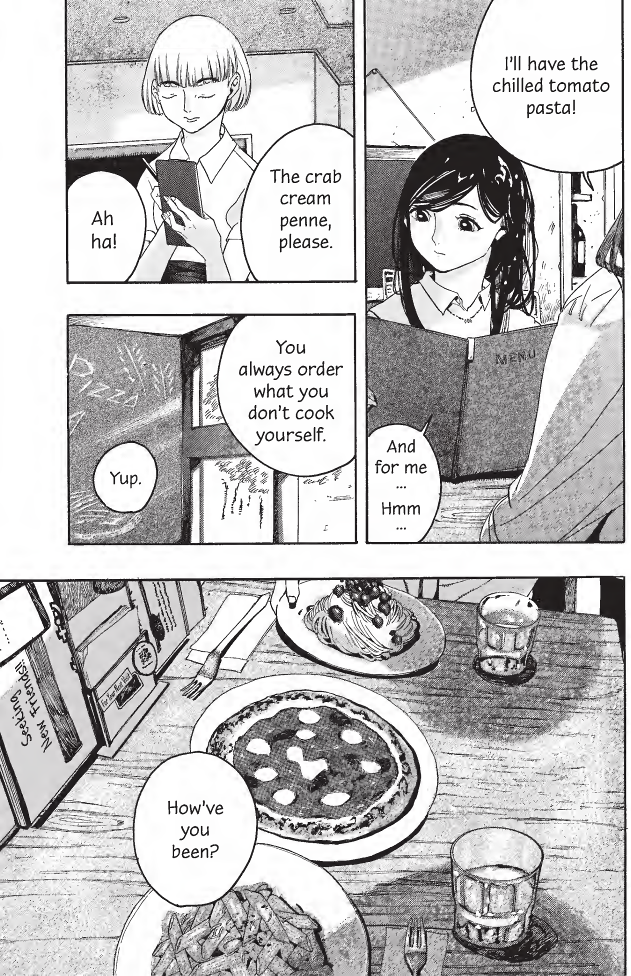

Hmhm hmm! ♪
Hmhm hmm! ♪ ♫
Sunday of that week
she smiled in front of the mirror more than usual.

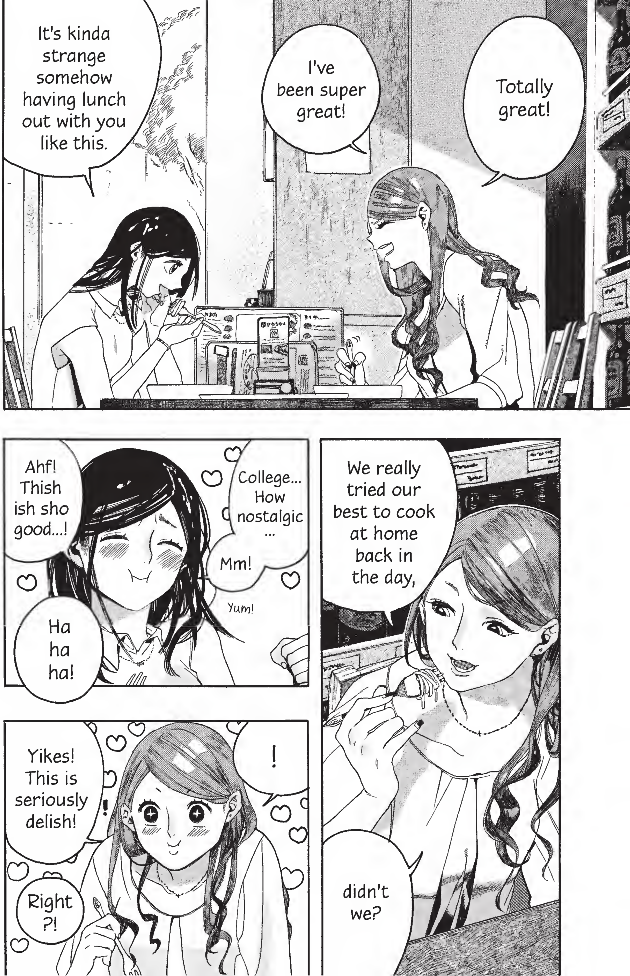

Other Voic
Would she come home smelling like that again?
Meow
Yup.
Bye bye, now.

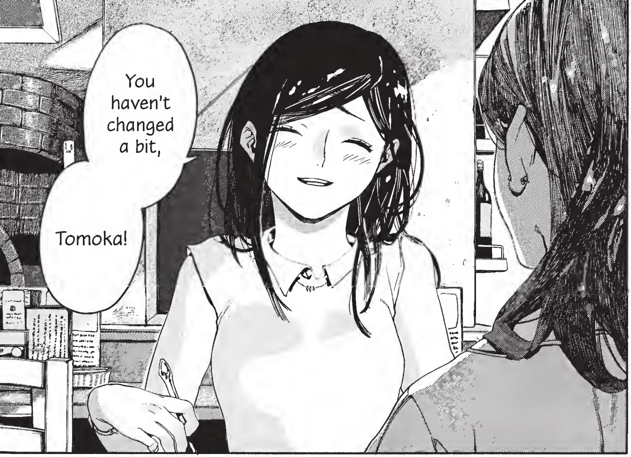

KTAN
ゴトン…
KTUN
ゴトン…
Everything Flows
Chatting over drinks!
Out for drinks
Have no fear! We have the tricks!
Use self-deprecating humor
What should y
Tips and hints for when you're invited out for drinks with colleagues!
beer
tuna
tofu
horse sashimi
Ah!
Miiii~
yu!♡
!

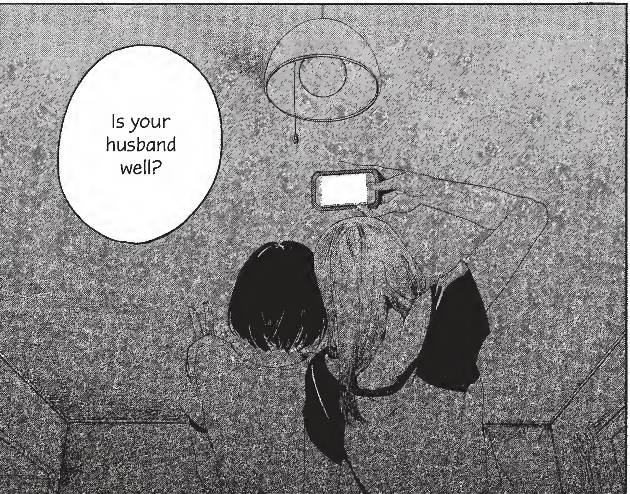

It's been forever!
But it sure doesn't feel like it!

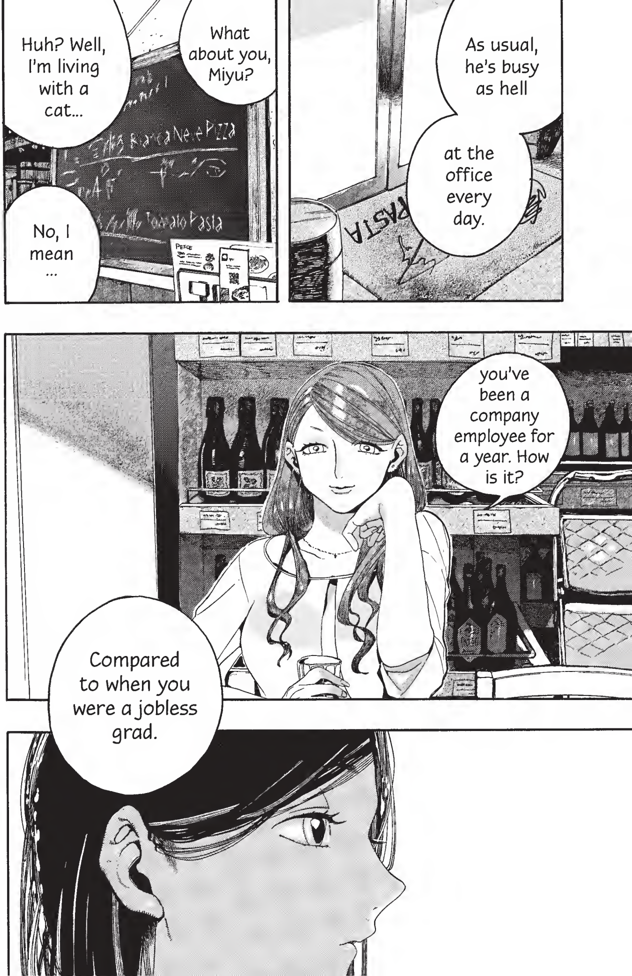

Pasta & Pizza
MENU
Soups
Fresh Ham Whimsy Soup ¥600
Carrot Potage ¥500
Edamame and Broad Bean Soup ¥600
Mystery Soup ¥1000
Salads
Prosciutto Salad ¥1200
Orange and Balsamic Salad ¥700
Strawberry and Onion Salad ¥600
Kabocha and Mascarpone Salad ¥700
Fig Salad ¥500
Dri
Coffe
Iced
Oolong
Ginge
Oran
Blac
De
Pan

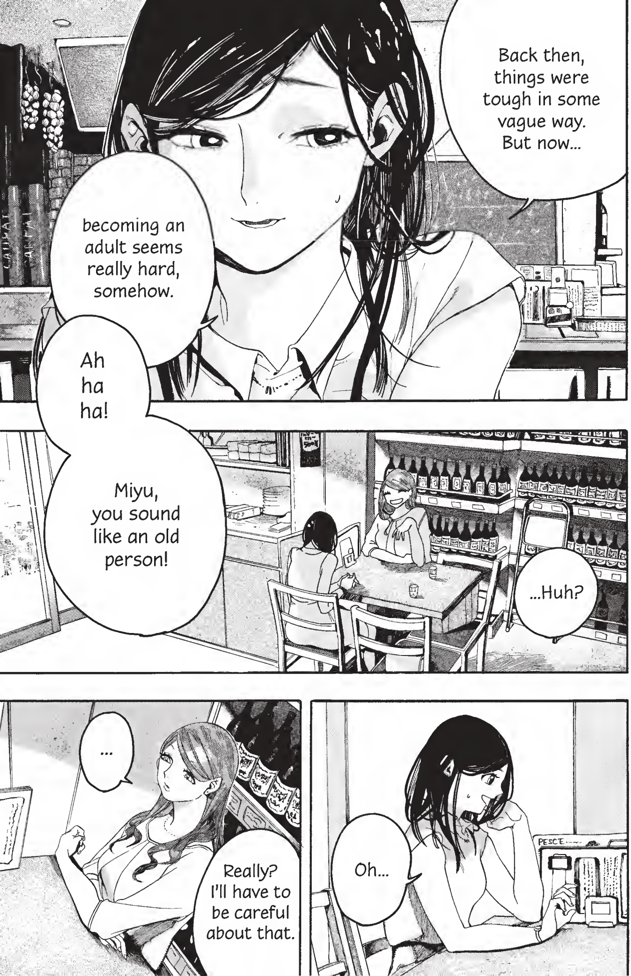

I'll have the chilled tomato pasta!
The crab cream penne, please.
Ah ha!
MENU
And for me ... Hmm ...
You always order what you don't cook yourself.
Yup.
Pizza
Seeking New Friends!!
For Your Next Visit
How've you been?

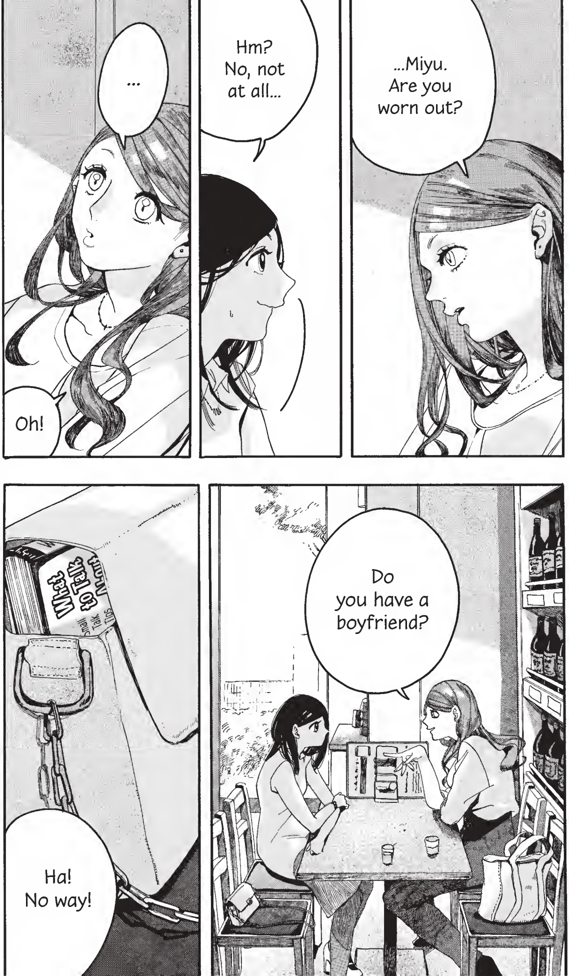

Totally great!
I've been super great!
It's kinda strange somehow having lunch out with you like this.
We really tried our best to cook at home back in the day,
didn't we?
College... How nostalgic...
Mm!
Ahf! Thish ish sho good...!
Yum!
Ha ha ha!
!
Yikes! This is seriously delish!
Right?!

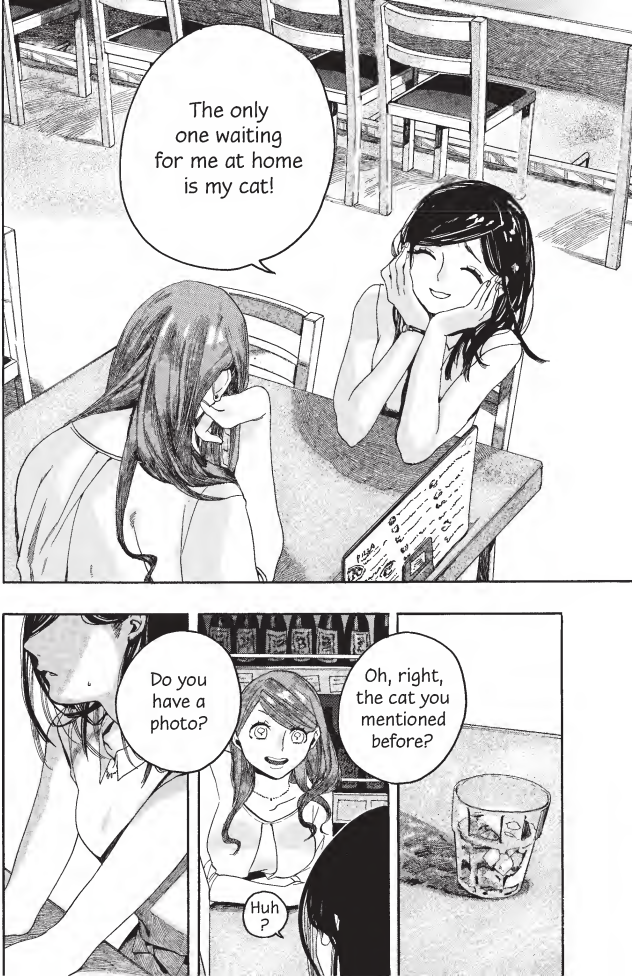

You haven't changed a bit,
Tomoka!

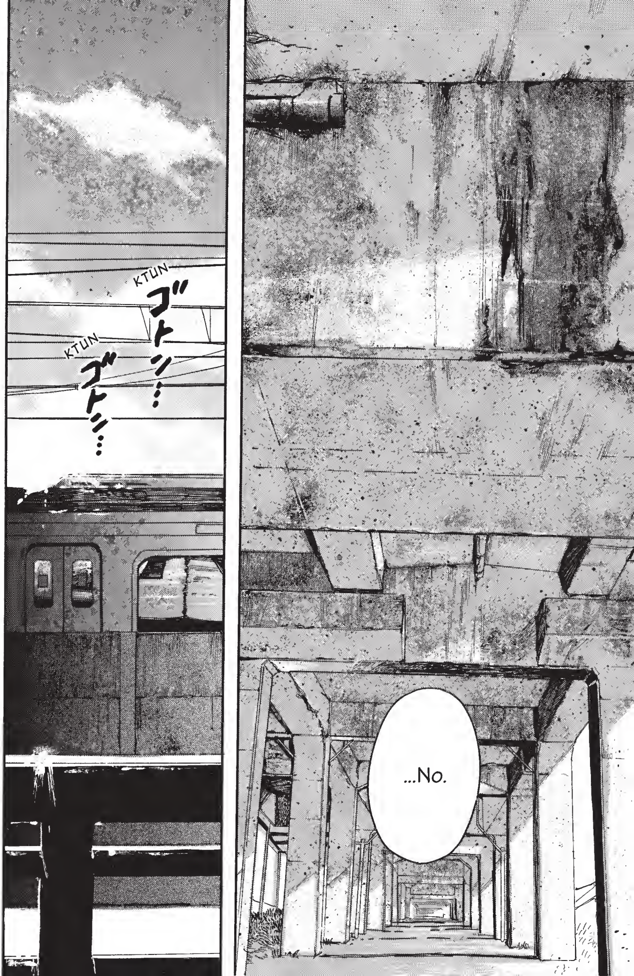

Is your husband well?

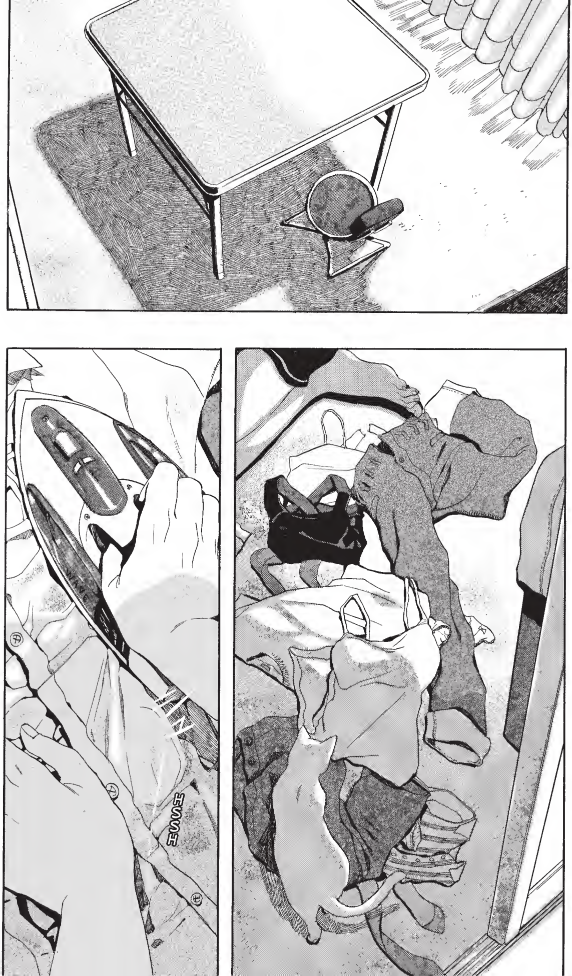

As usual, he's busy as hell
at the office every day.
PASTA
What about you, Miyu?
Huh? Well, I'm living with a cat...
No, I mean ...
Tomato Pasta
PESCE
you've been a company employee for a year. How is it?
Compared to when you were a jobless grad.

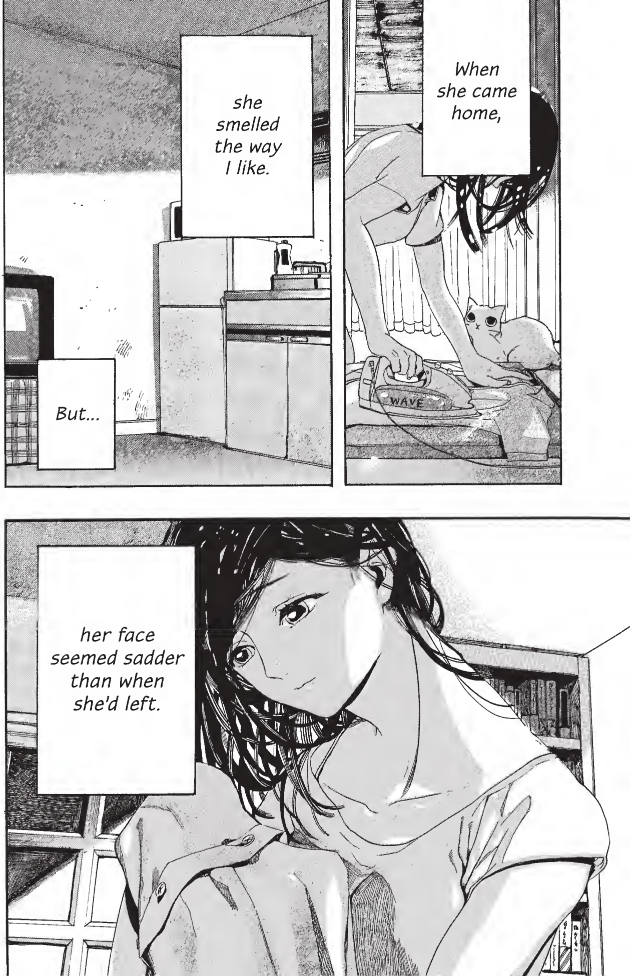

Back then, things were tough in some vague way. But now...
becoming an adult seems really hard, somehow.
Ah ha ha!
Miyu, you sound like an old person!
...Huh?
Oh...
PESCE
...
Really? I'll have to be careful about that.

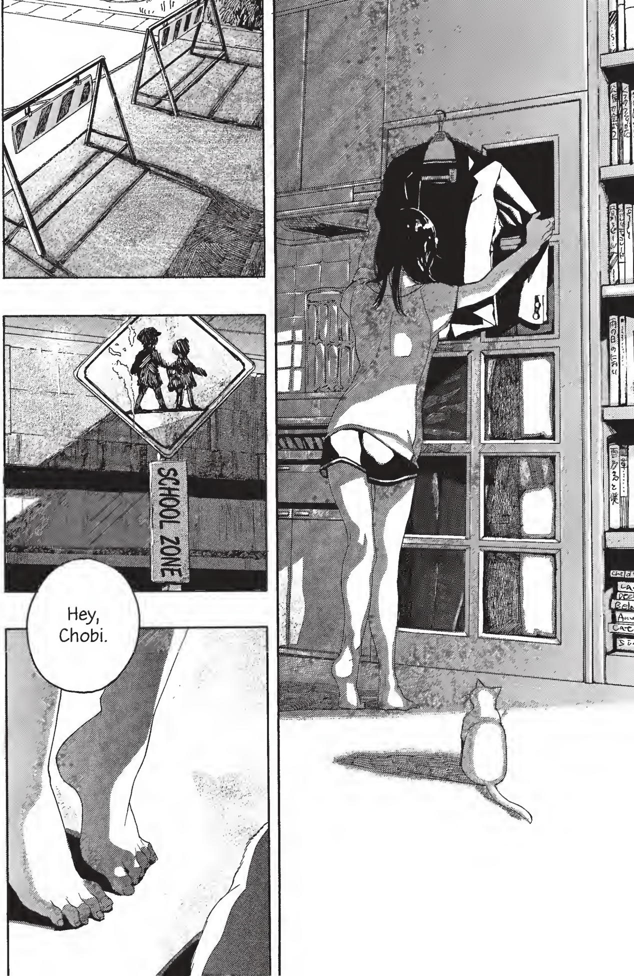

...Miyu.
Are you
worn out?
Hm?
No, not
at all...
...
Oh!
Do
you have a
boyfriend?
What to Talk
Small Talk Tips
Ha!
No way!

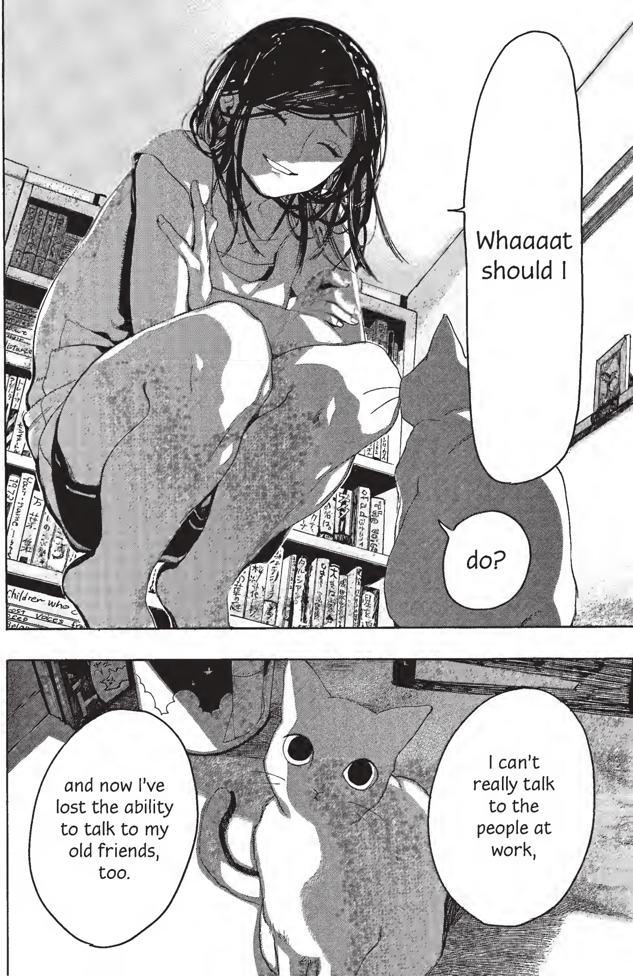

The only one waiting for me at home is my cat!
Oh, right, the cat you mentioned before?
Do you have a photo?
Huh?

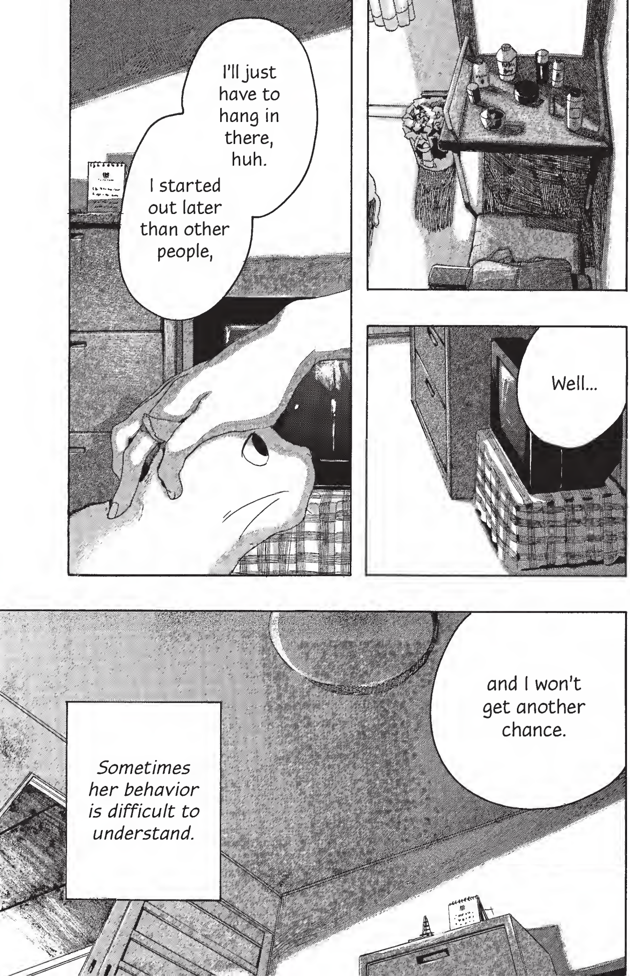

...No.
KTUN
ゴトン…
KTUN
ゴトン…

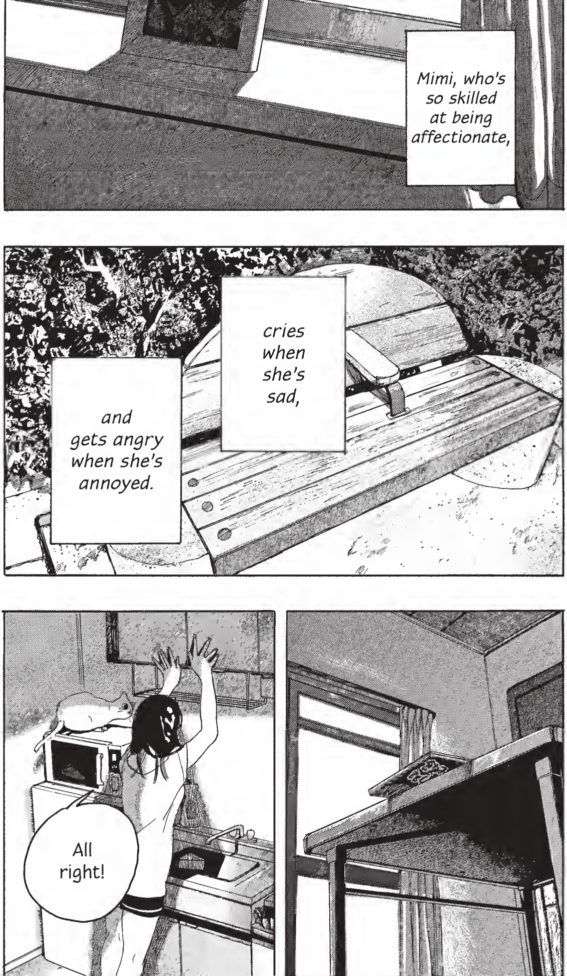

HSSSH

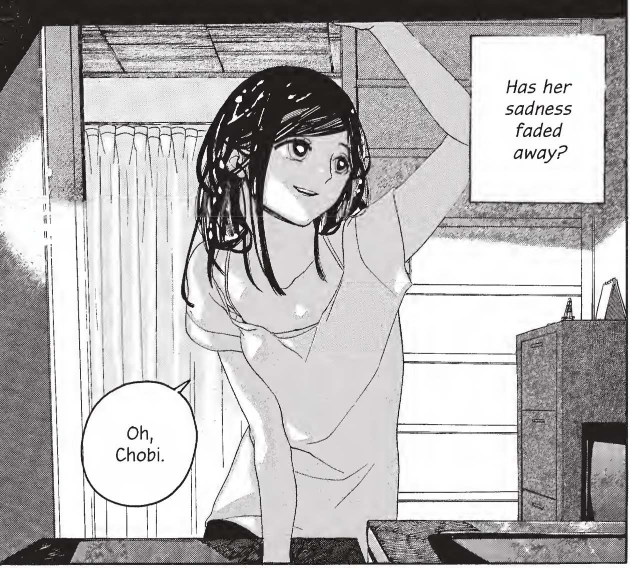

When she came home,
WAVE
she smelled the way I like.
But...
her face seemed sadder than when she'd left.

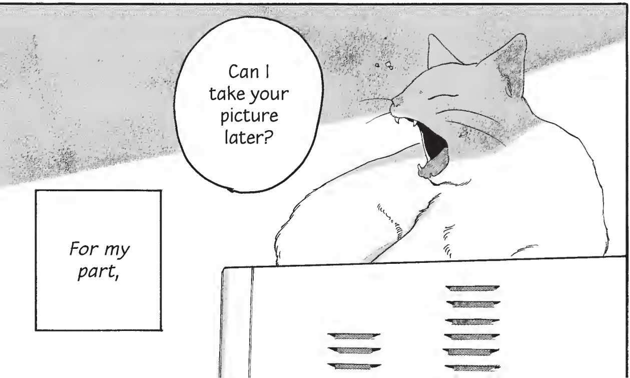

雨の日のにおい
SCHOOL ZONE
Hey, Chobi.

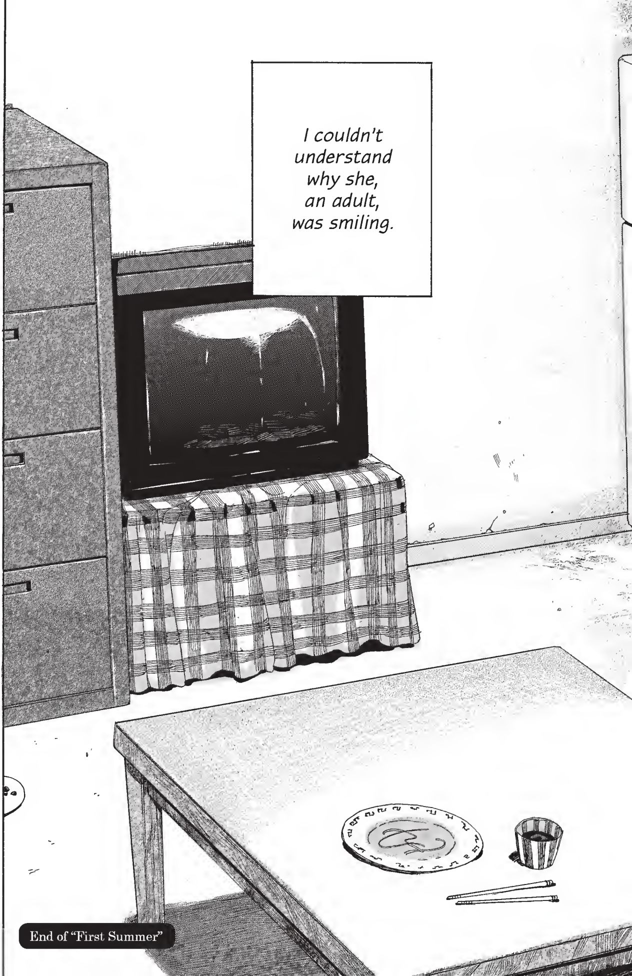

Whaaaat should I
do?
Children who c
Lost voices fr
The Voices
I can't really talk to the people at work,
and now I've lost the ability to talk to my old friends, too.

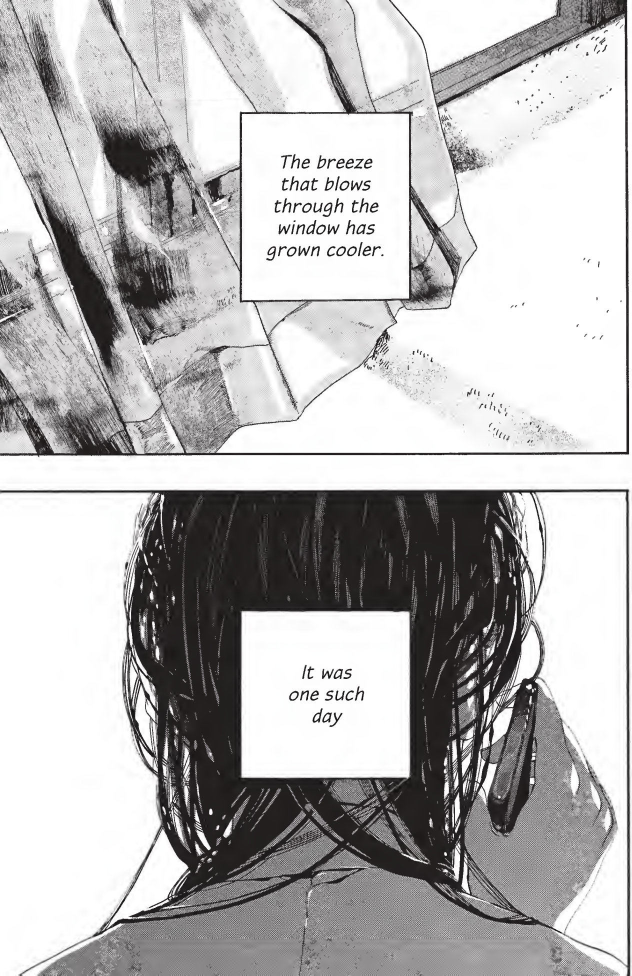

Well...
I started out later than other people,
and I won't get another chance.
I'll just have to hang in there, huh.
Sometimes her behavior is difficult to understand.

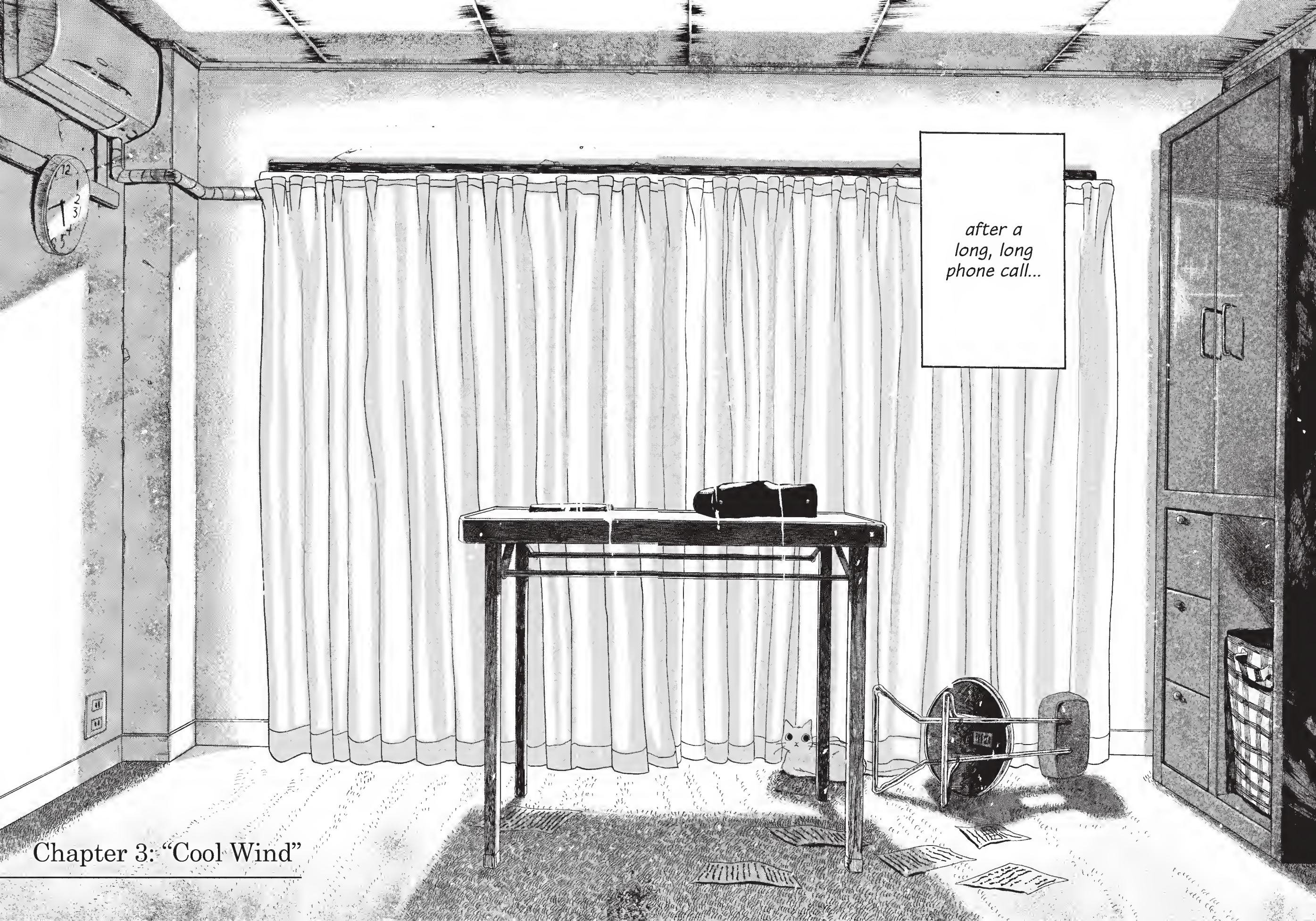

Mimi, who's so skilled at being affectionate,
cries when she's sad,
and gets angry when she's annoyed.
All right!


Has her sadness faded away?
Oh, Chobi.

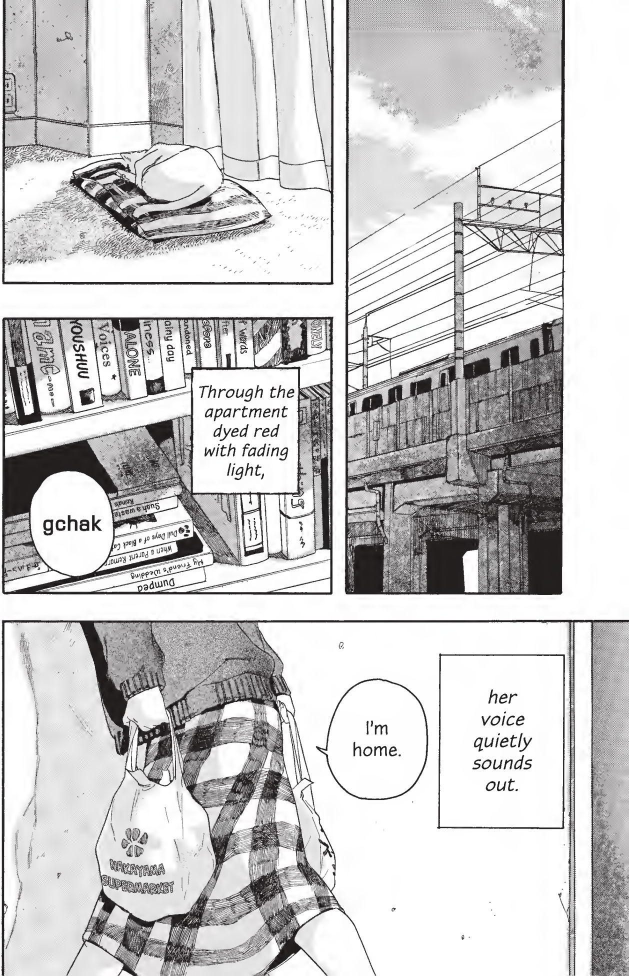

Can I take your picture later?
For my part,

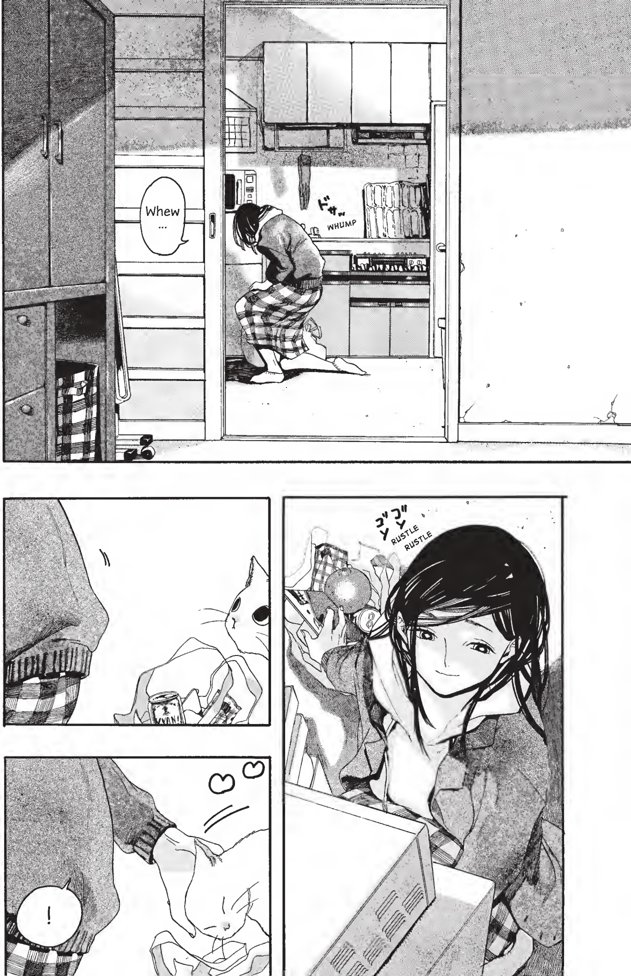

I couldn't understand why she, an adult, was smiling.
End of "First Summer"

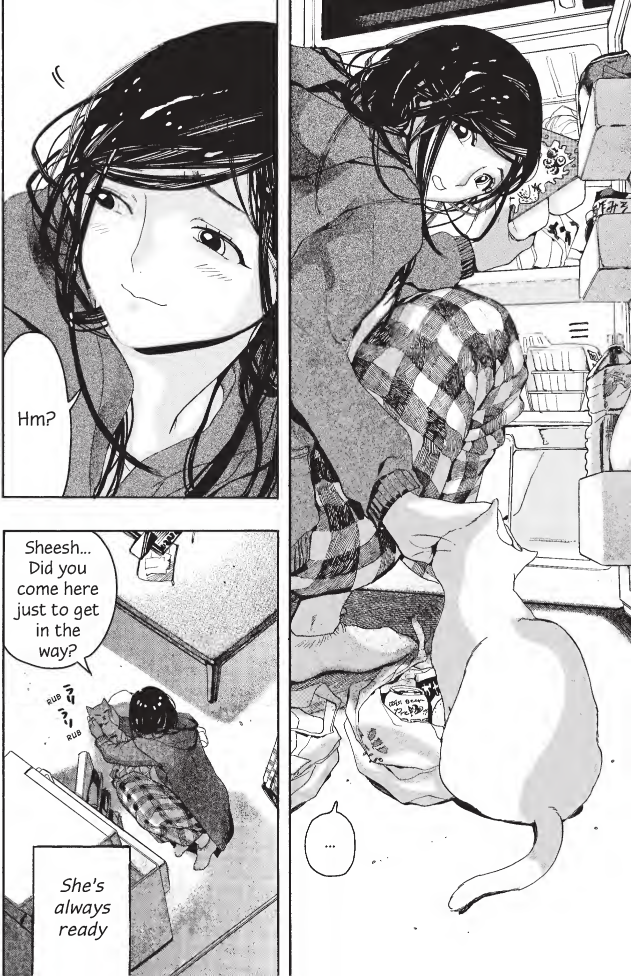

The breeze that blows through the window has grown cooler.
It was one such day

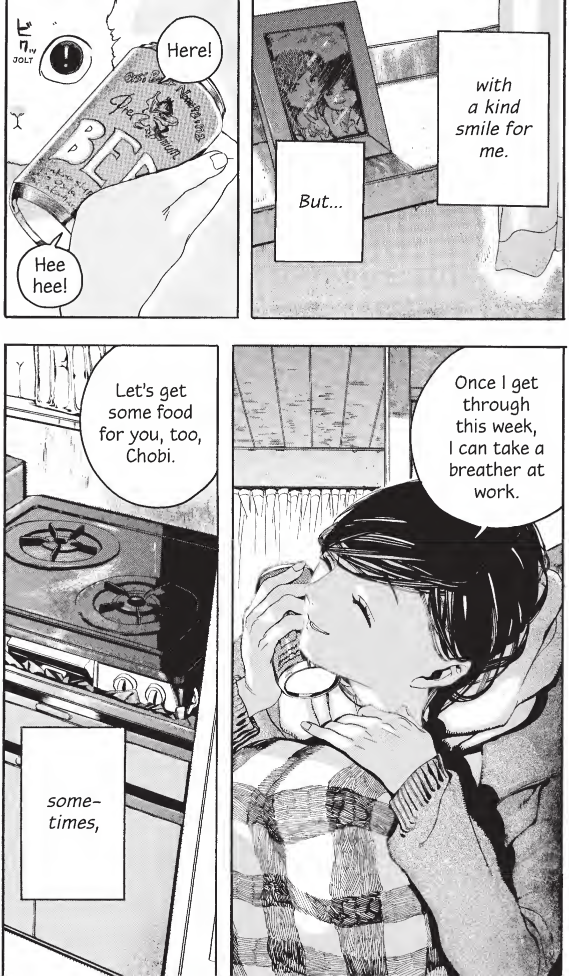

after a long, long phone call...

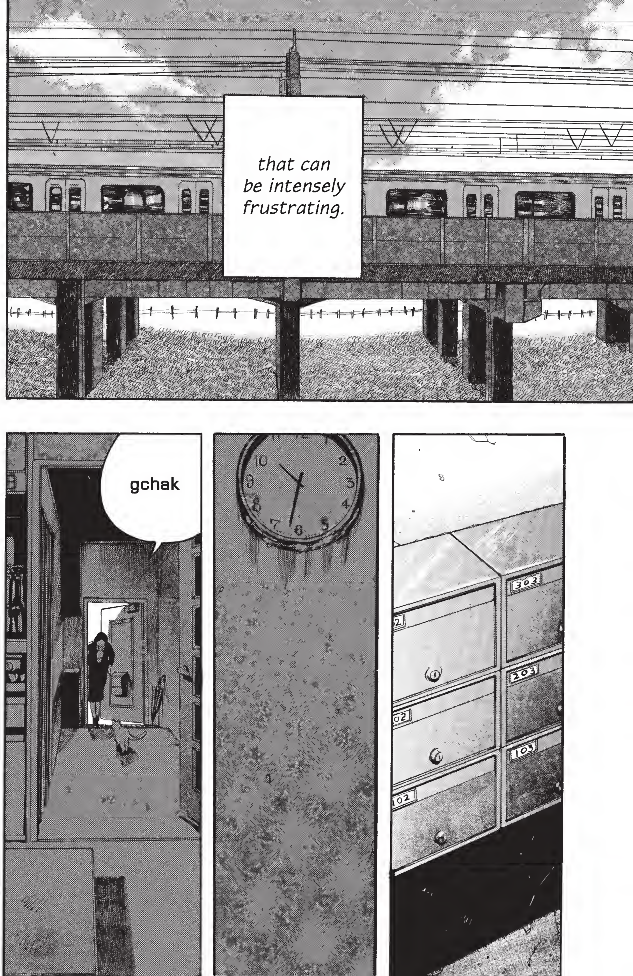
Chapter 3: “Cool Wind”

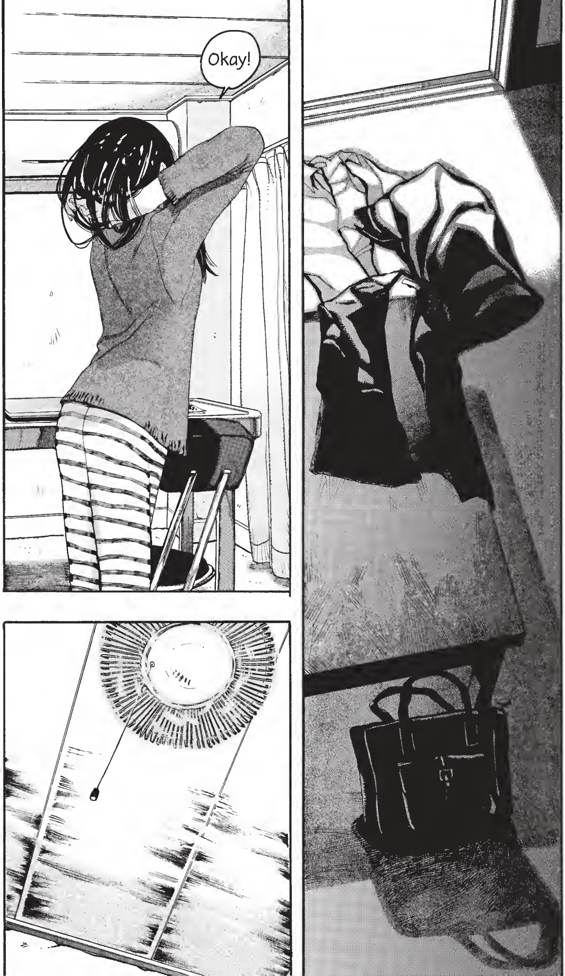

Through the apartment dyed red with fading light,
gchak
YOUSHU
Voices
ALONE
ainy day
Dumped
My Friend's Wedding
her voice quietly sounds out.
I'm home.
NAKAYAMA SUPERMARKET

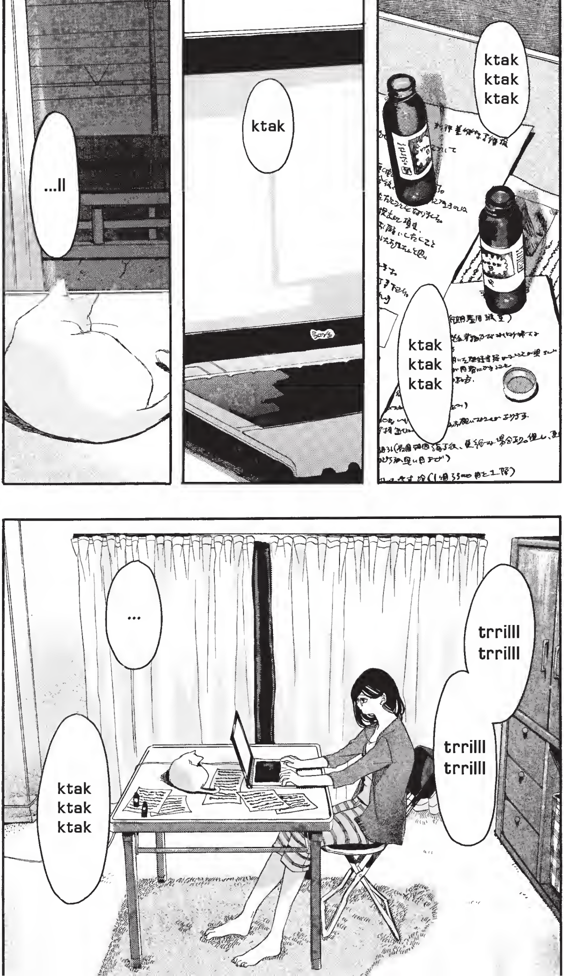

Whew ...
ドサッ
WHUMP
ゴソゴソ
RUSTLE RUSTLE
!

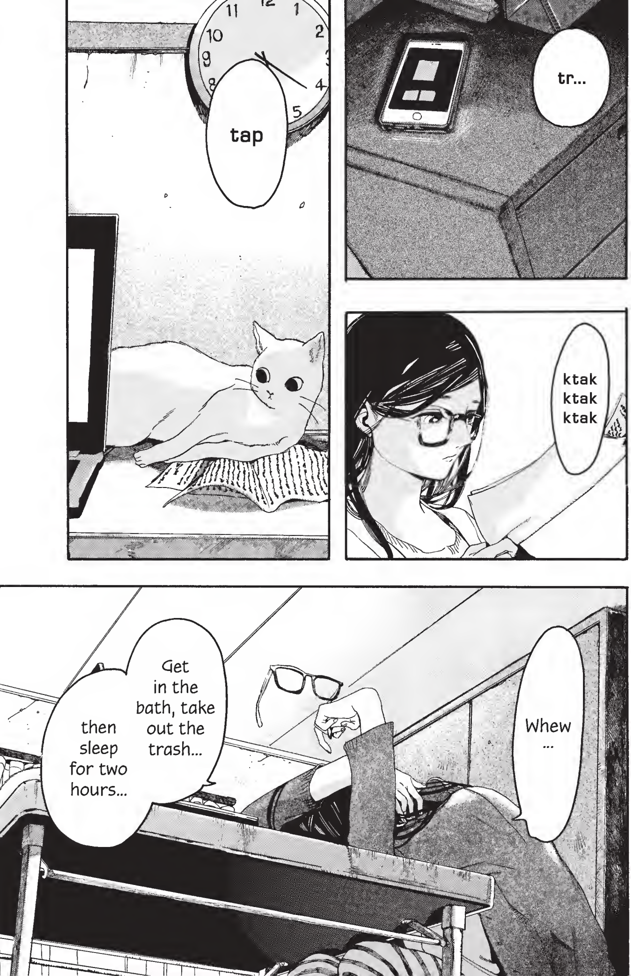

...
Hm?
Sheesh... Did you come here just to get in the way?
RUB ラリ
ラリ RUB
She's always ready

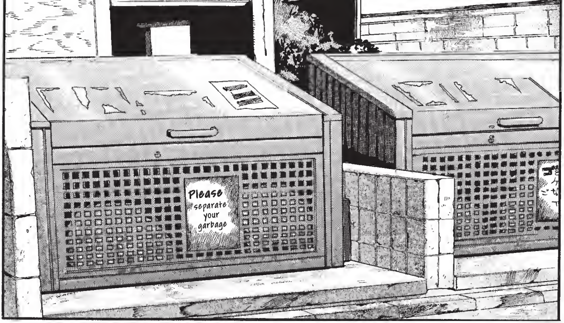

with a kind smile for me.
But...
ビクッ
JOLT
Here!
Hee hee!
Once I get through this week, I can take a breather at work.
Let's get some food for you, too, Chobi.
some-times,

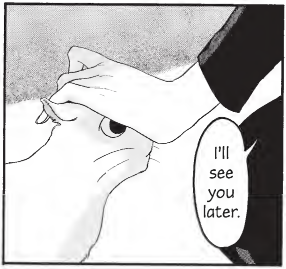

that can be intensely frustrating.
gchak
303
203
103
102

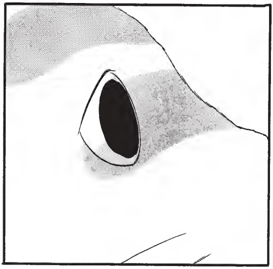

Okay!

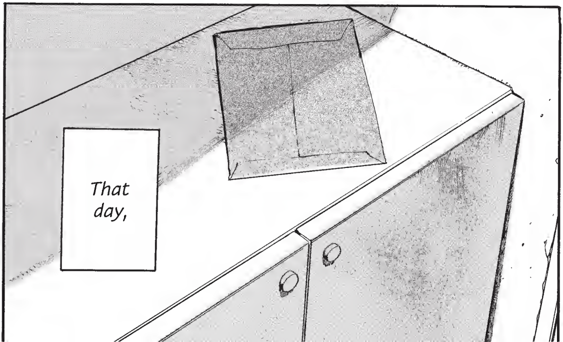

ktak ktak ktak
ktak ktak ktak
ktak
...ll
trrilll trrilll
trrilll trrilll
...
ktak ktak ktak

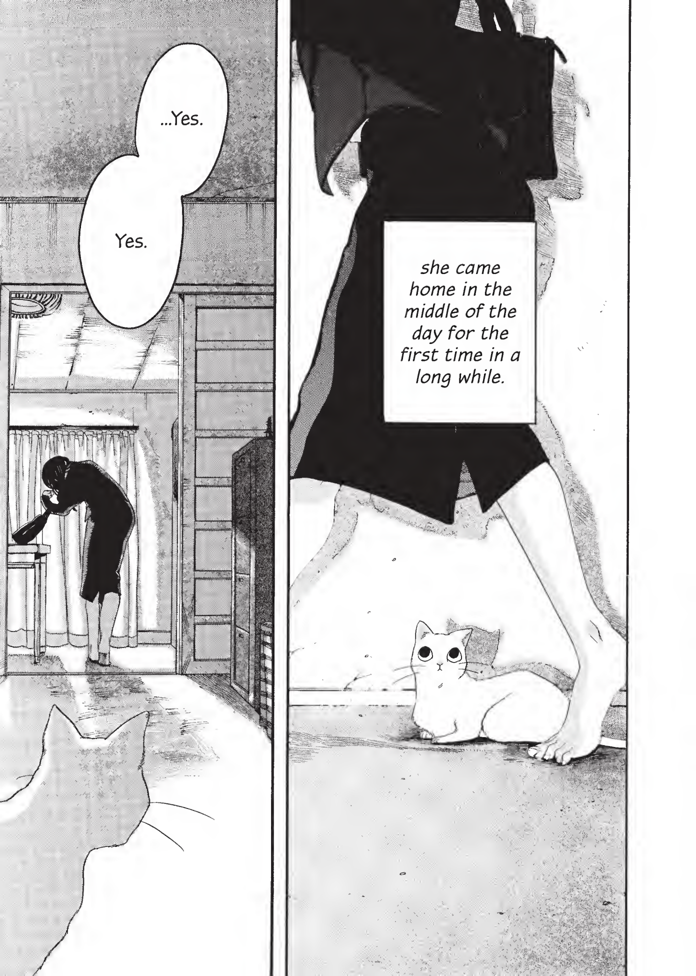

tr...
ktak ktak ktak
tap
Whew ...
Get in the bath, take out the trash...
then sleep for two hours...

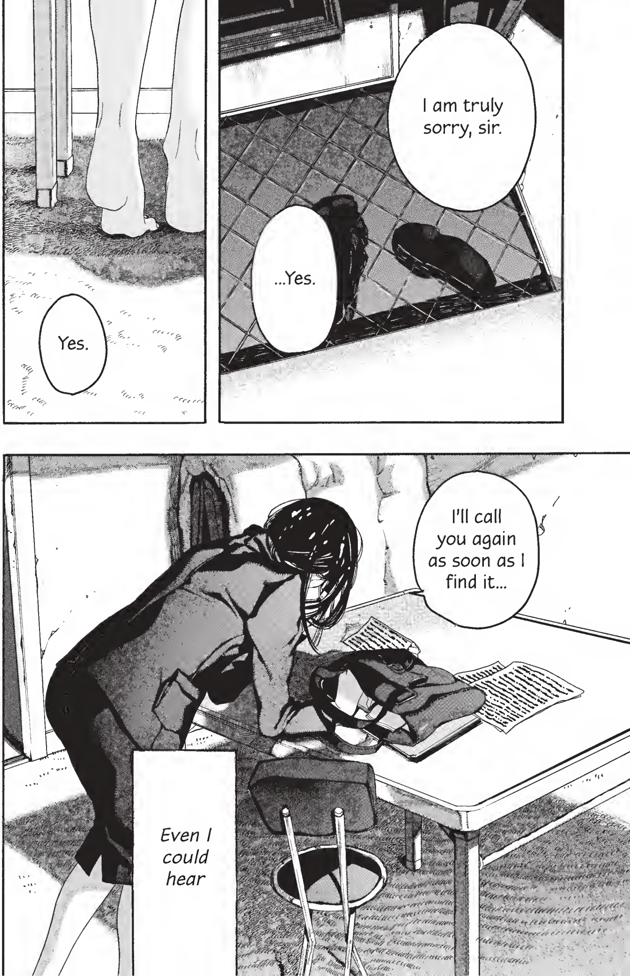

Please separate your garbage

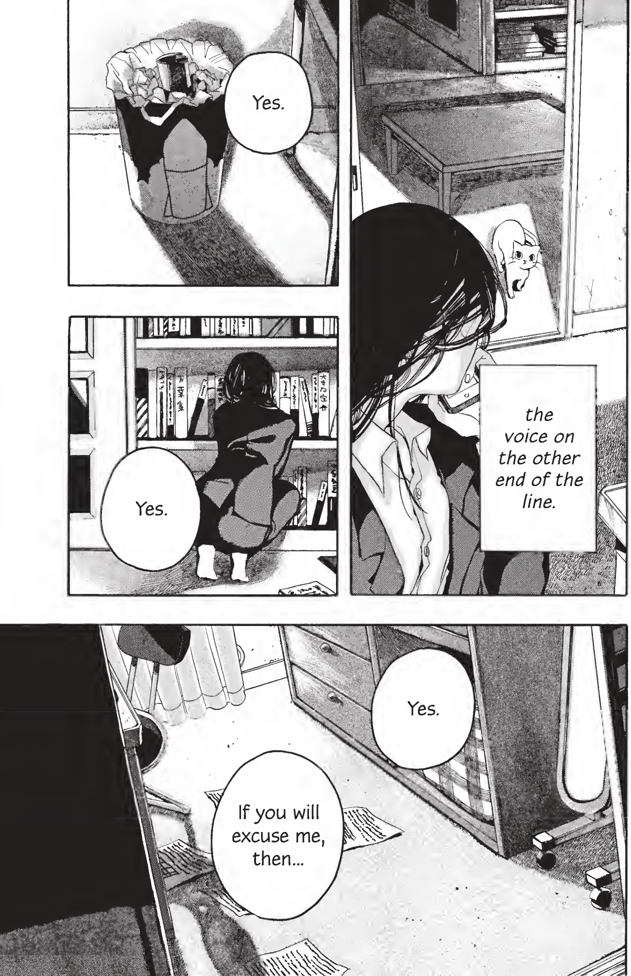

I'll see you later.

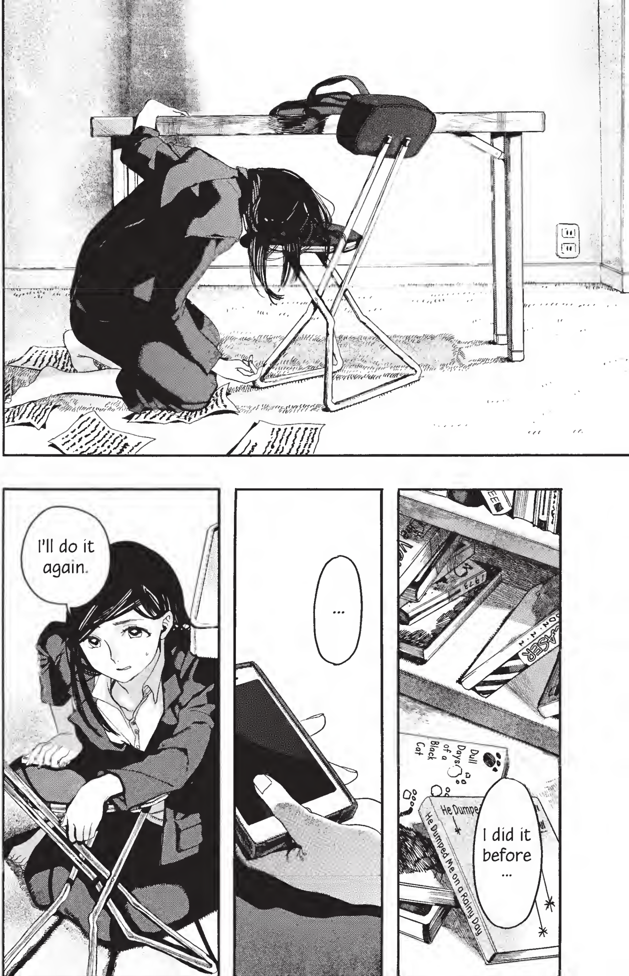


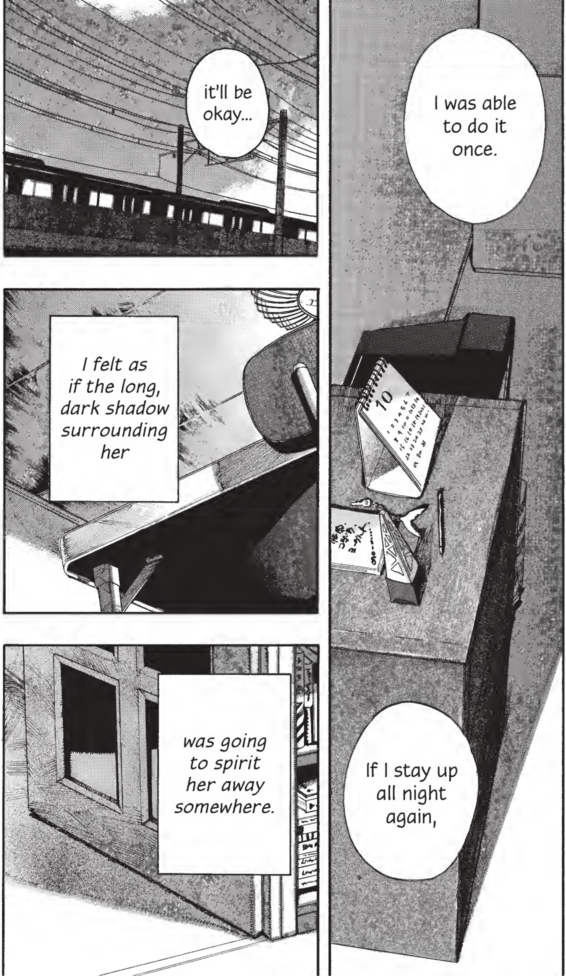

That day,

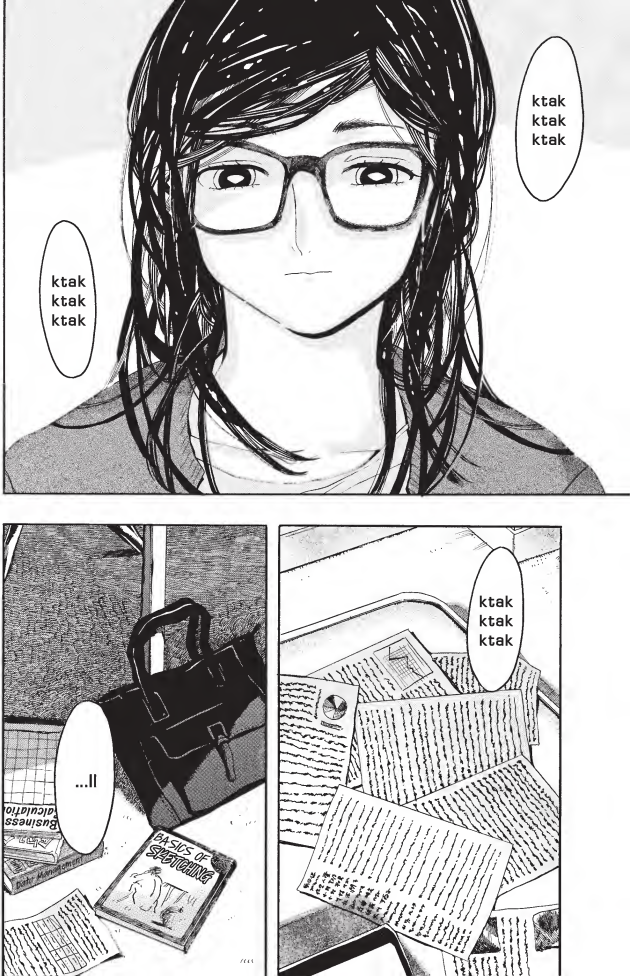

she came home in the middle of the day for the first time in a long while.
...Yes.
Yes.

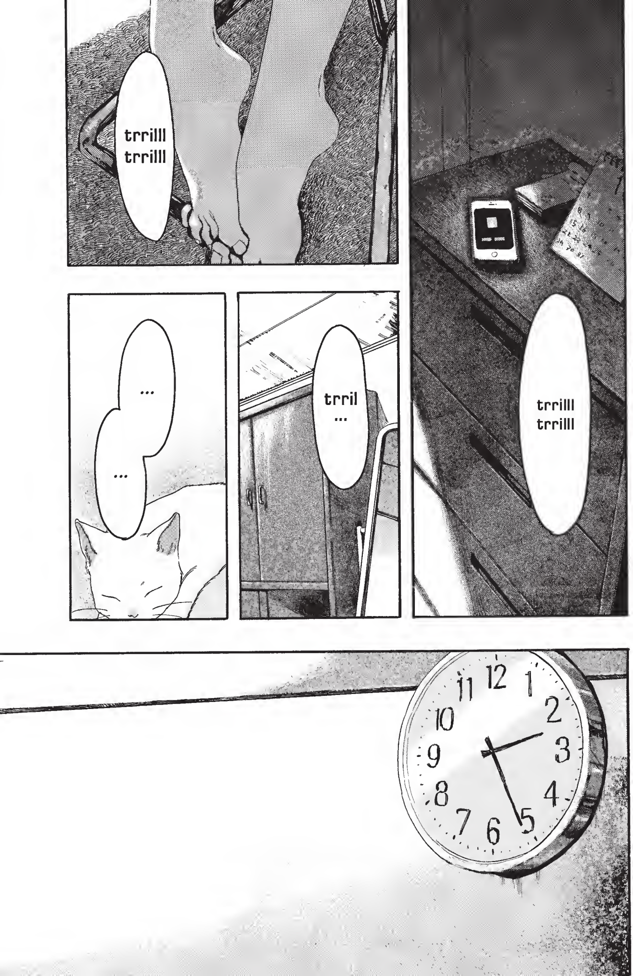

I am truly sorry, sir.
...Yes.
Yes.
I'll call you again as soon as I find it...
Even I could hear

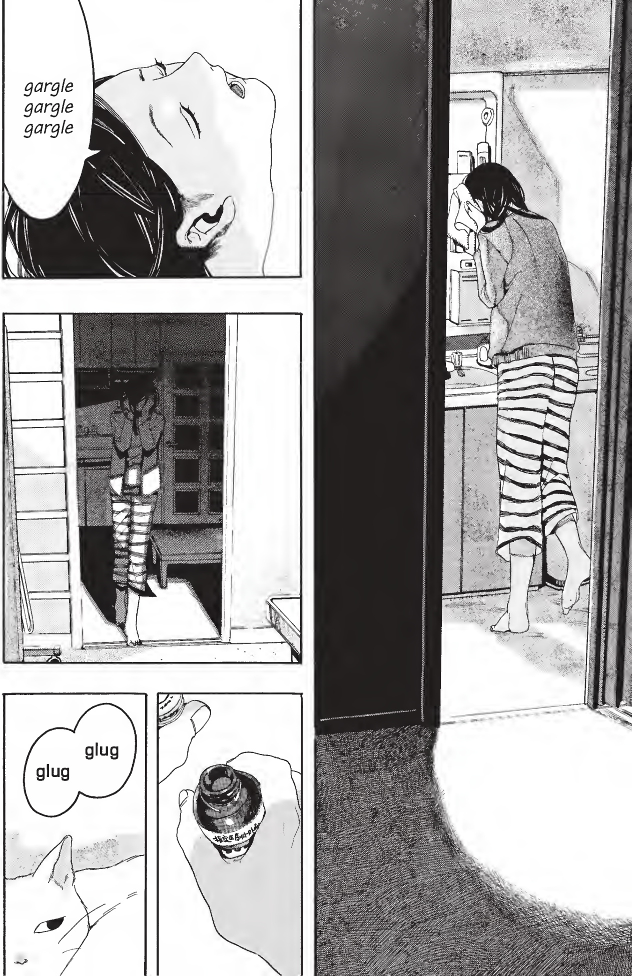

the voice on the other end of the line.
Yes.
Yes.
Yes.
If you will excuse me, then...

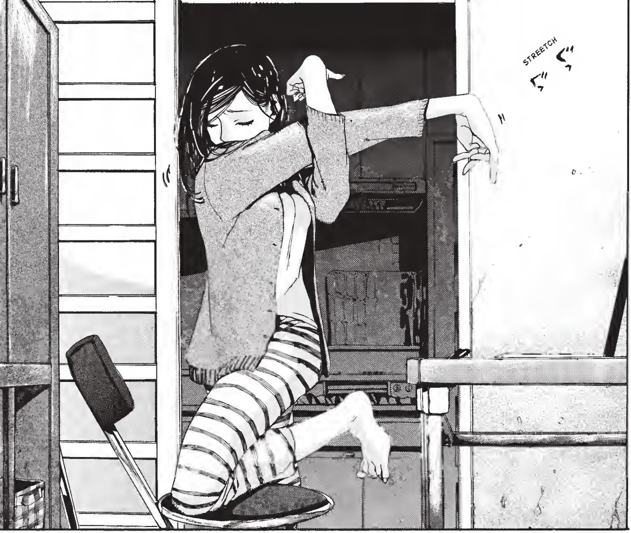

Dull Days of a Black Cat
He Dumpe
He Dumped Me on a Rainy Day
I did it before ...
...
I'll do it again.

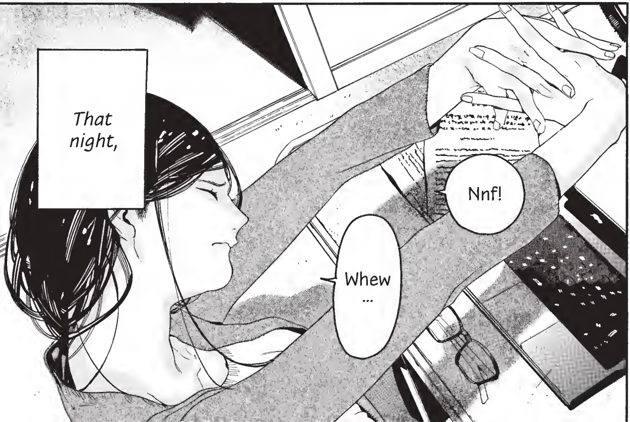

I was able to do it once.
If I stay up all night again,
it'll be okay...
I felt as if the long, dark shadow surrounding her
was going to spirit her away somewhere.

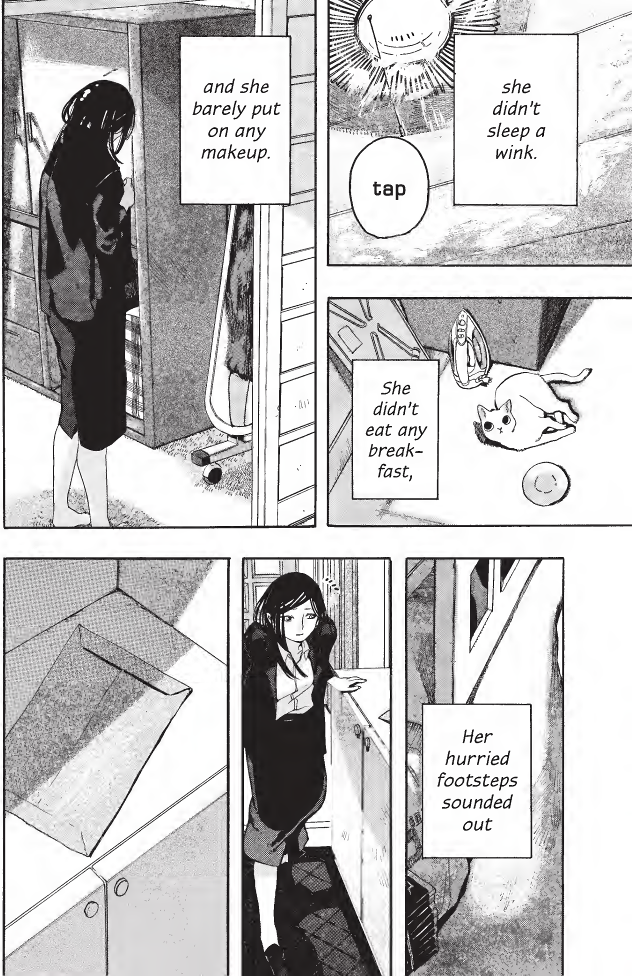

ktak
ktak
ktak
ktak
ktak
ktak
ktak
ktak
ktak
...!!
Business Calculation
Data Management
BASICS OF SKETCHING

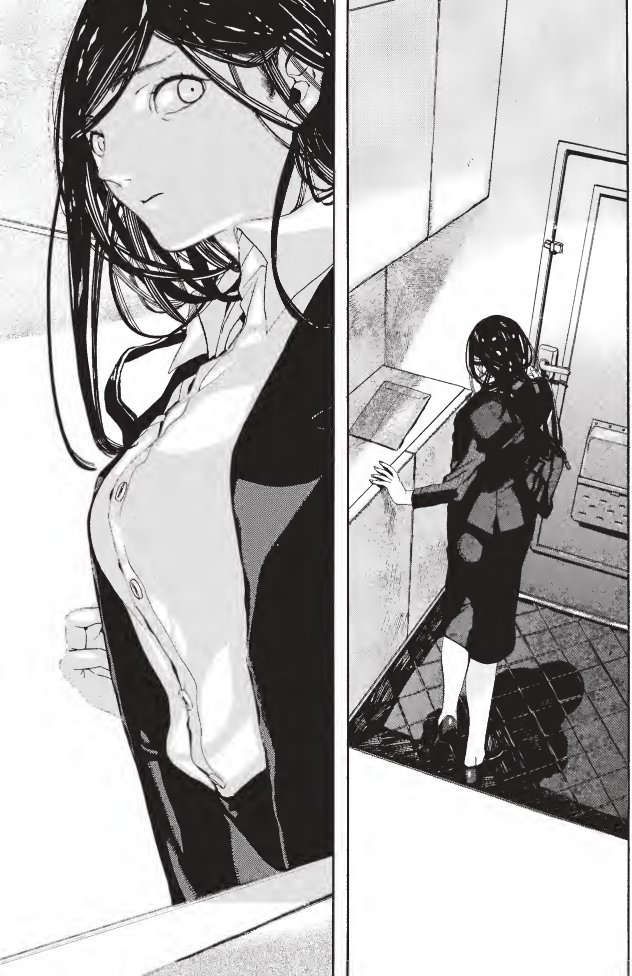

trrilll trrilll
trrilll trrilll
trril ...
... ...

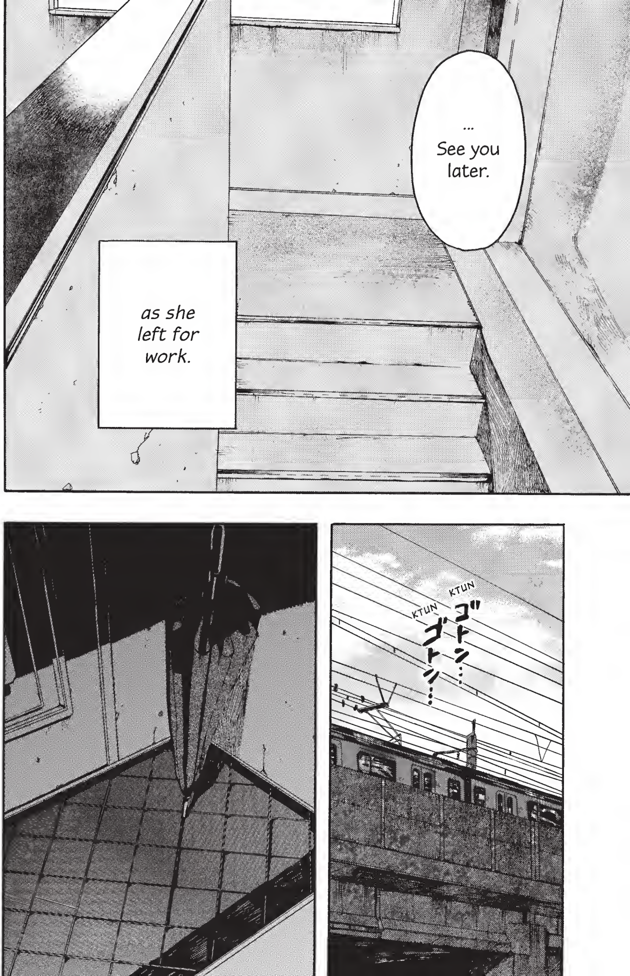

gargle
gargle
gargle
指定医薬部外品
glug
glug

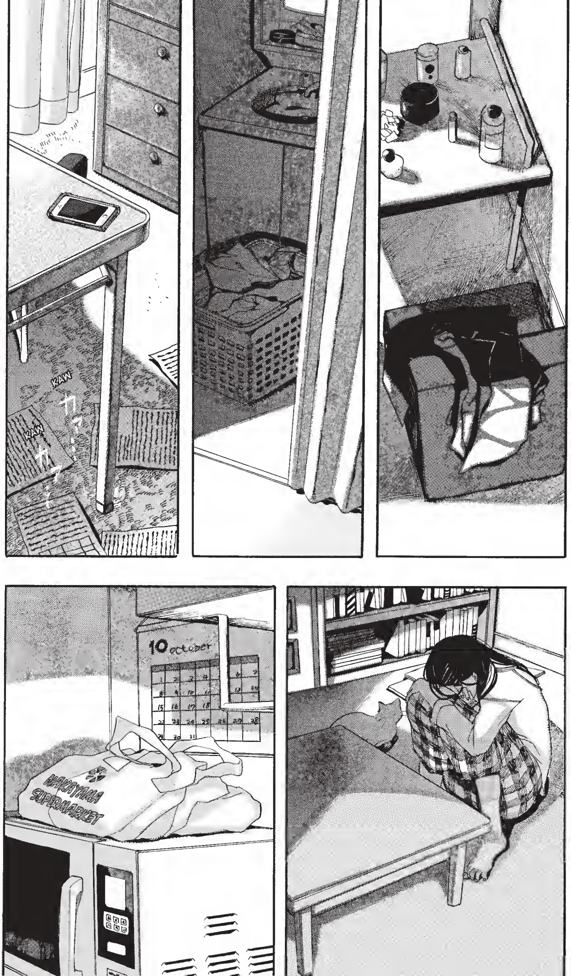

STREETCH

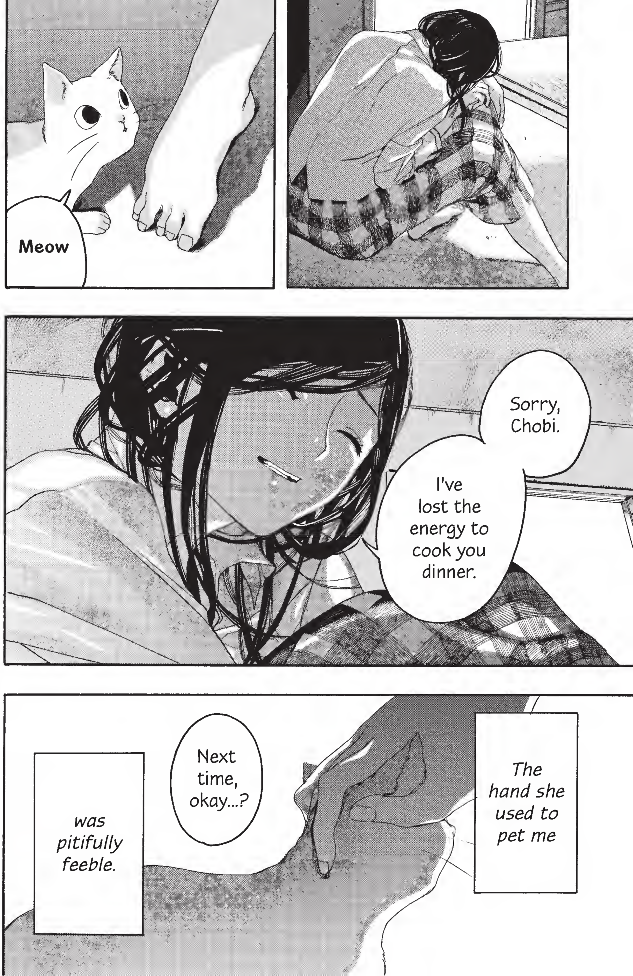

That night,
Nnf!
Whew ...

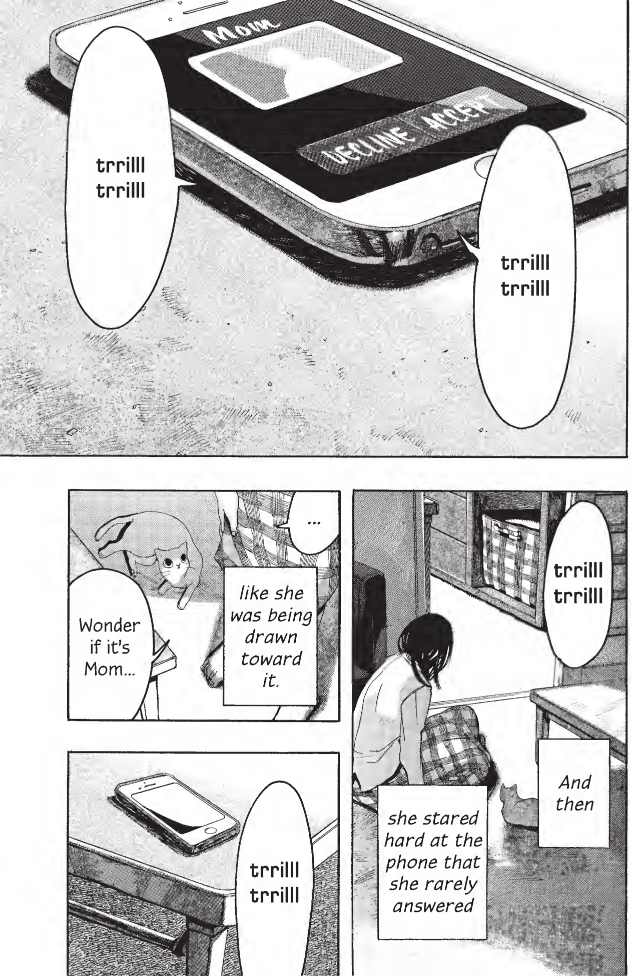

she didn't sleep a wink.
tap
She didn't eat any breakfast,
and she barely put on any makeup.
Her hurried footsteps sounded out

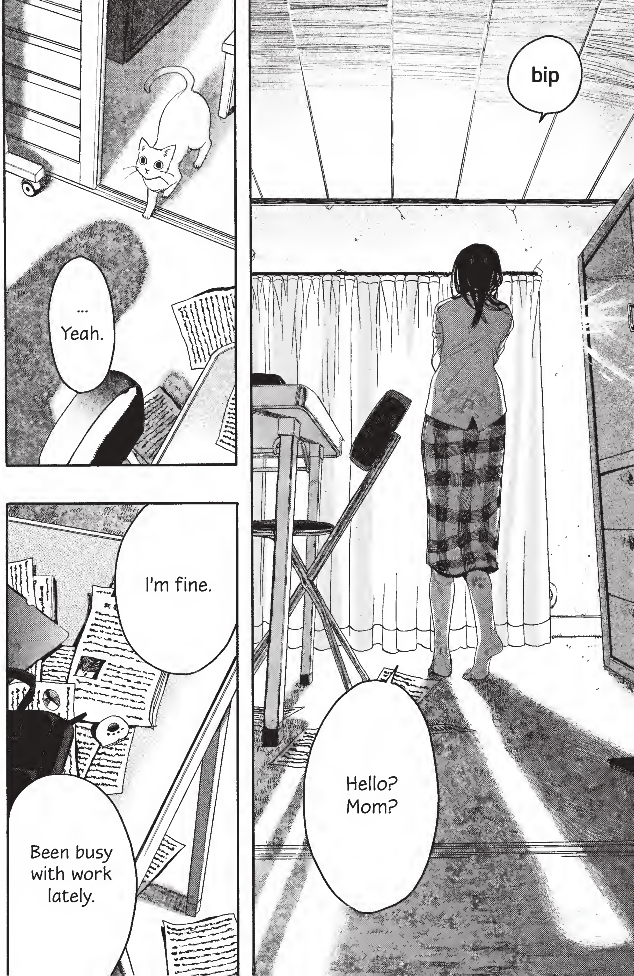


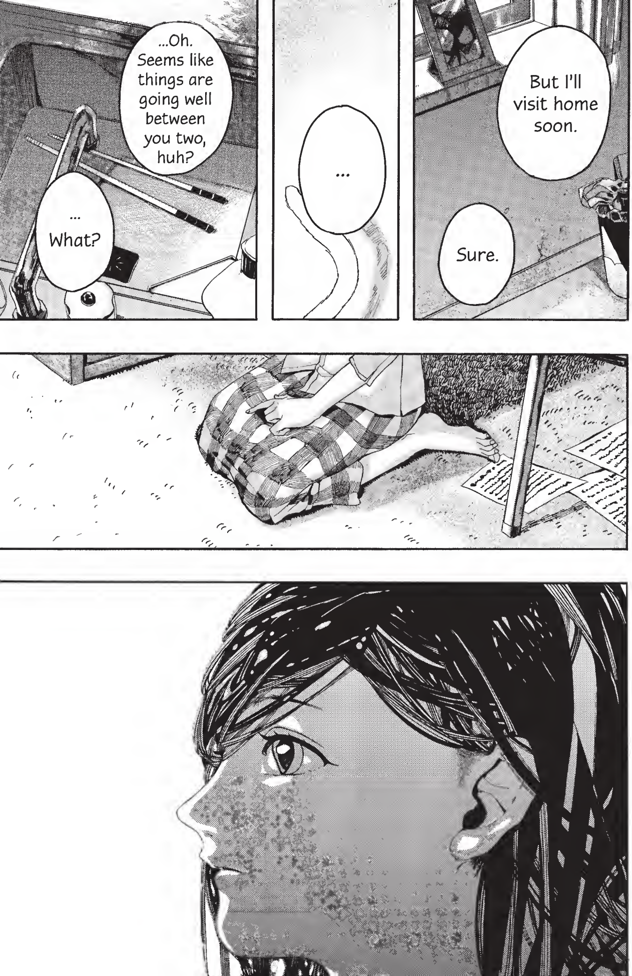

…
See you later.
as she left for work.
KTUN
ゴトン…
KTUN
ゴトン…

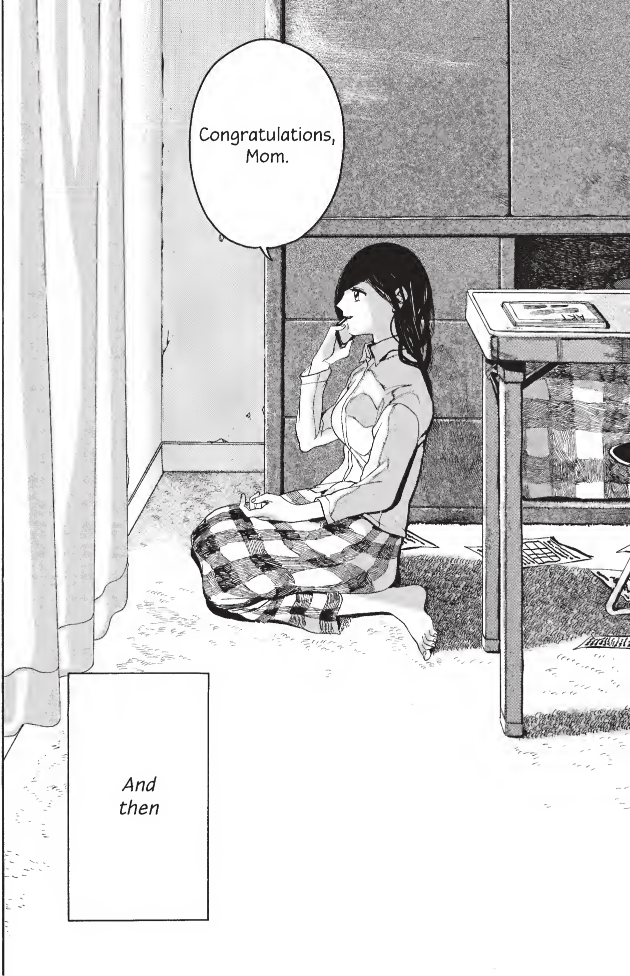

KAW
カァ…
KAW
カァ…
10 october
NAKAYAMA SUPERMARKET

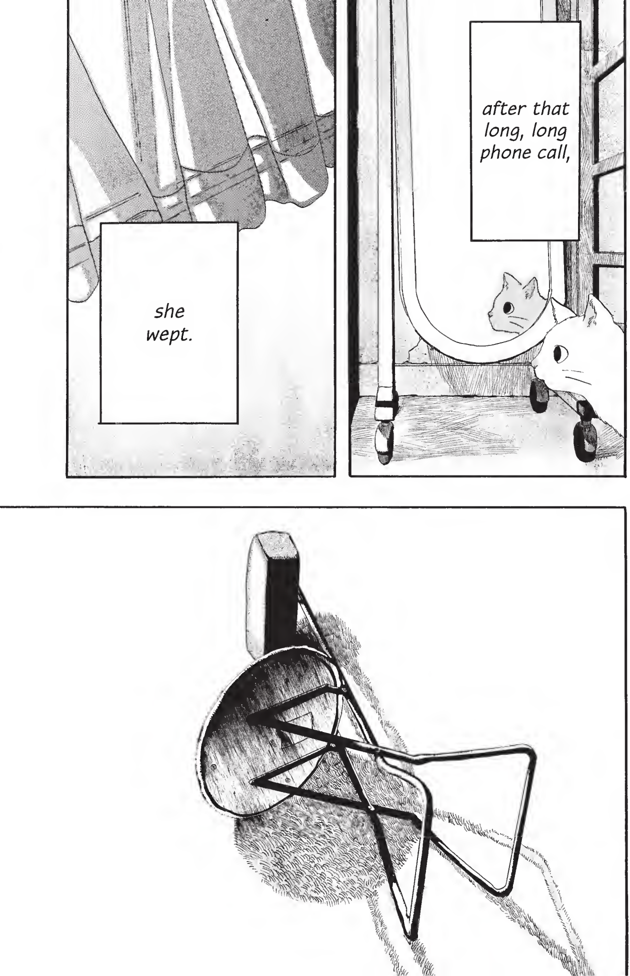

Meow
Sorry, Chobi.
I've lost the energy to cook you dinner.
The hand she used to pet me
Next time, okay...?
was pitifully feeble.

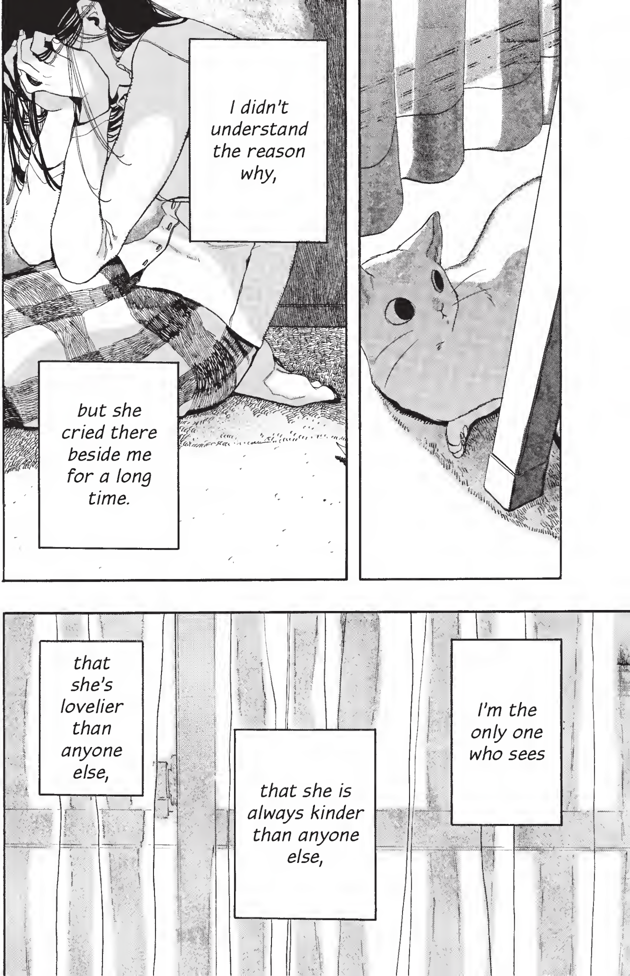

Mom
DECLINE
ACCEPT
trrilll trrilll
trrilll trrilll
trrilll trrilll
And then
she stared hard at the phone that she rarely answered
...
like she was being drawn toward it.
Wonder if it's Mom...
trrilll trrilll

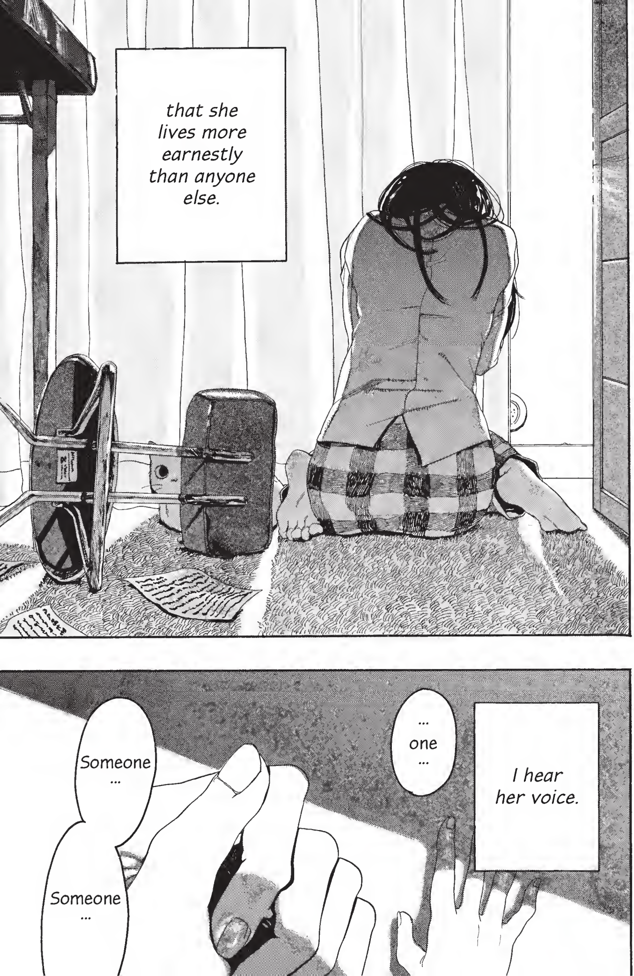

bip
Hello? Mom?
... Yeah.
I'm fine.
Been busy with work lately.

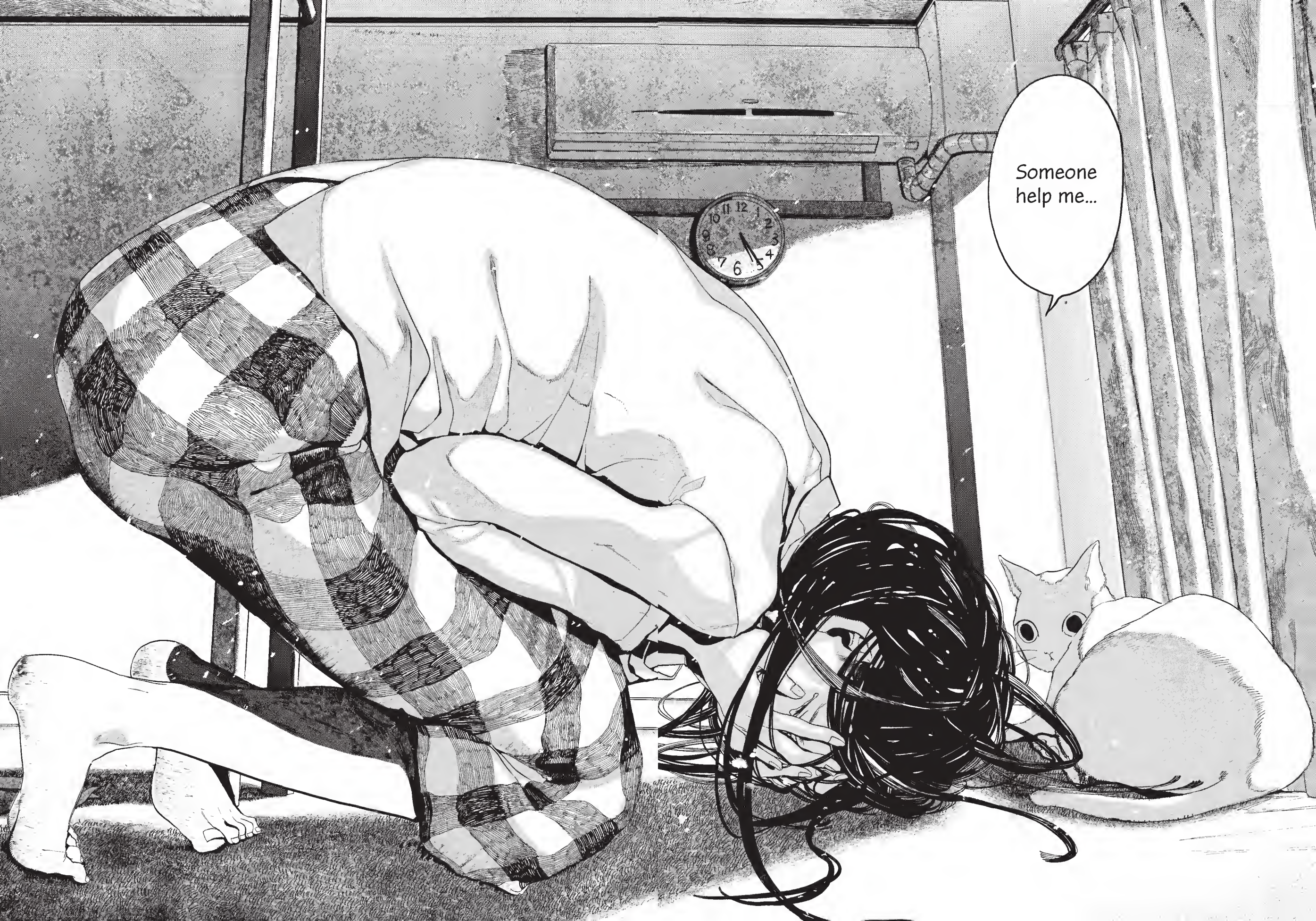

But I'll visit home soon.
Sure.
...
...Oh. Seems like things are going well between you two, huh?
... What?

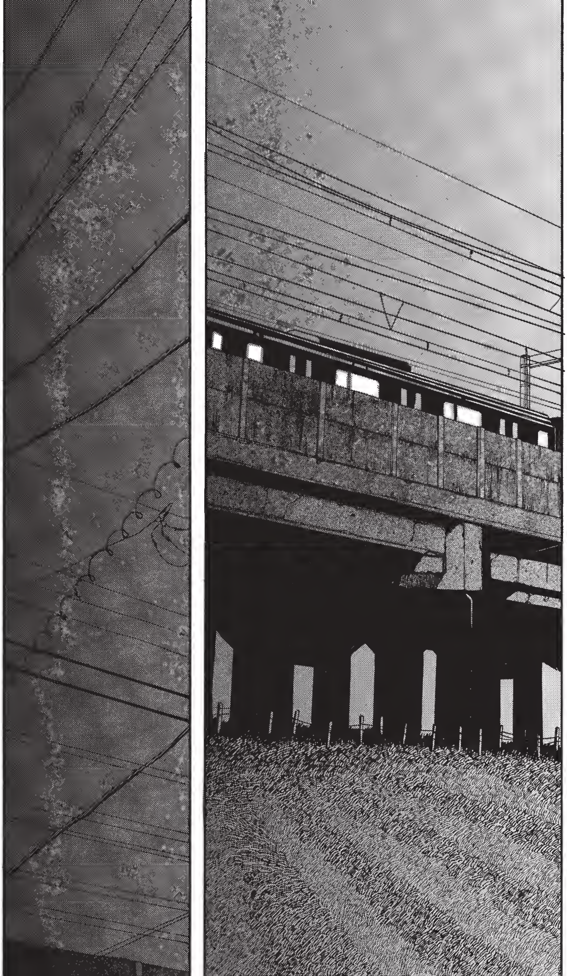

Congratulations, Mom.
AKT
And then

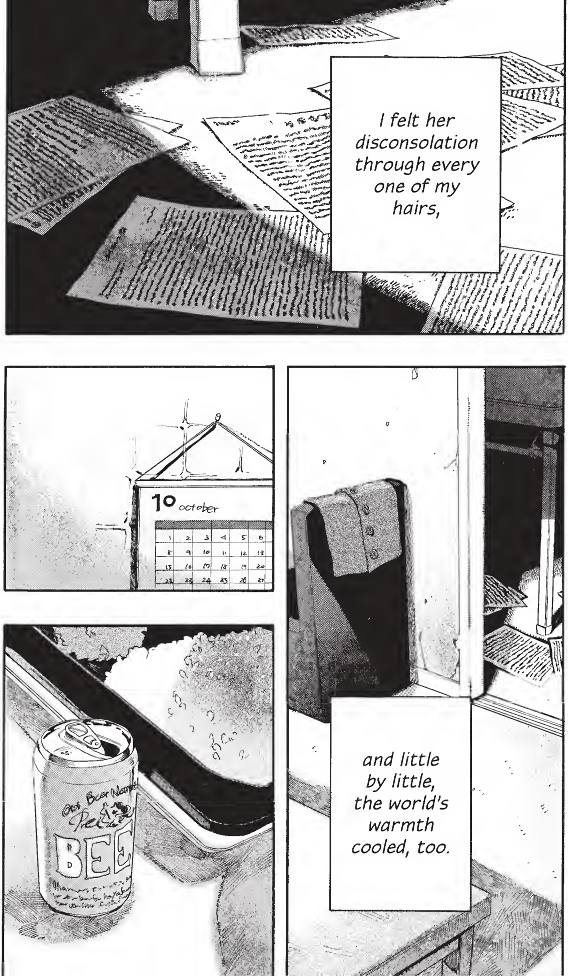

after that long, long phone call,
she wept.

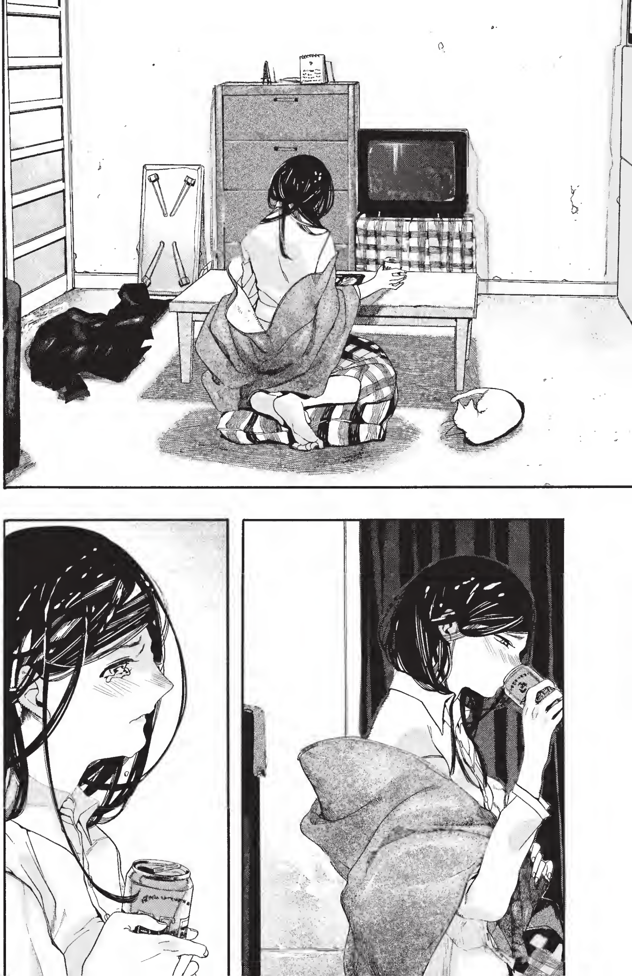

I didn't understand the reason why,
but she cried there beside me for a long time.
I'm the only one who sees
that she is always kinder than anyone else,
that she's lovelier than anyone else,

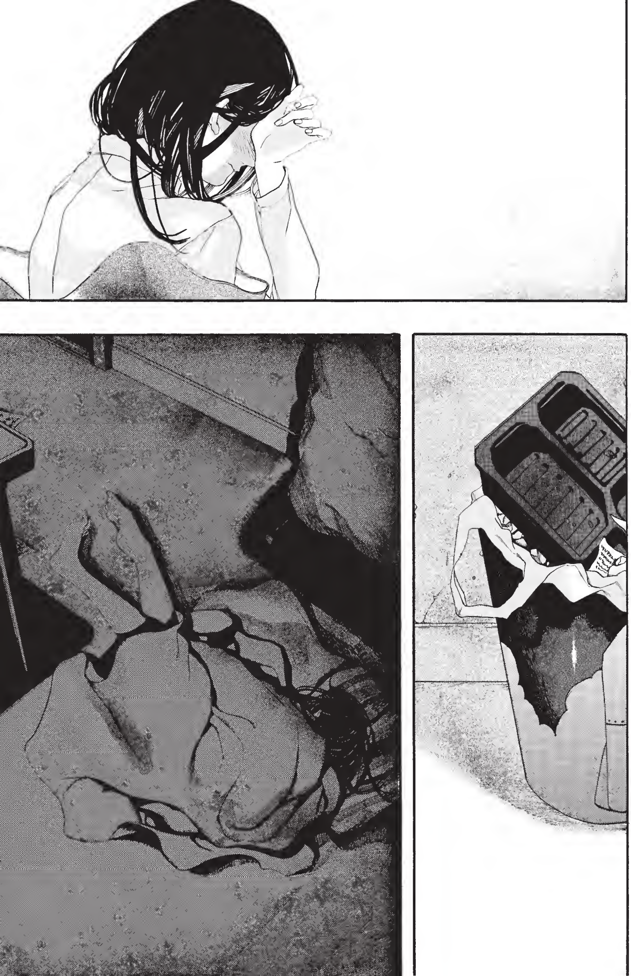

that she lives more earnestly than anyone else.
I hear her voice.
... one ...
Someone ...
Someone ...

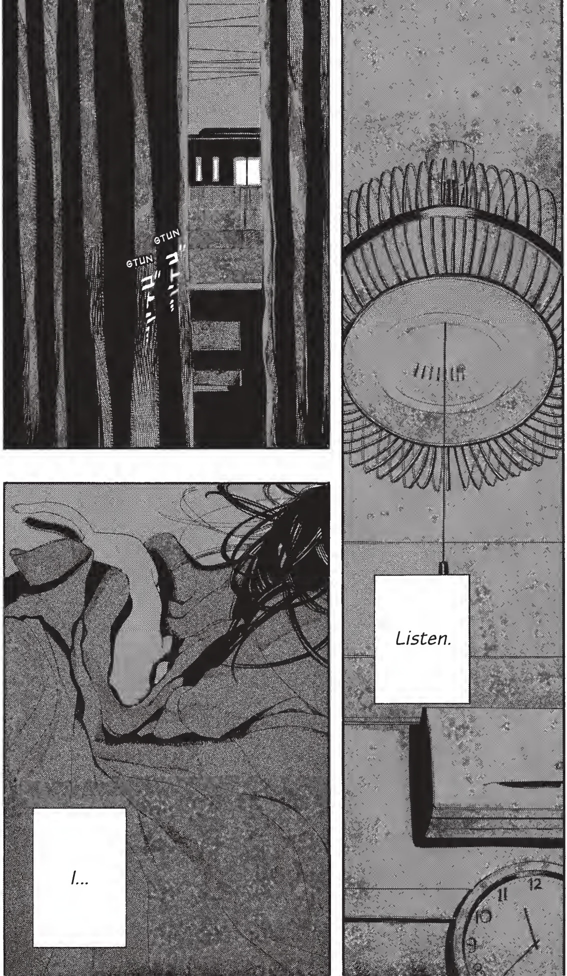

Someone help me...

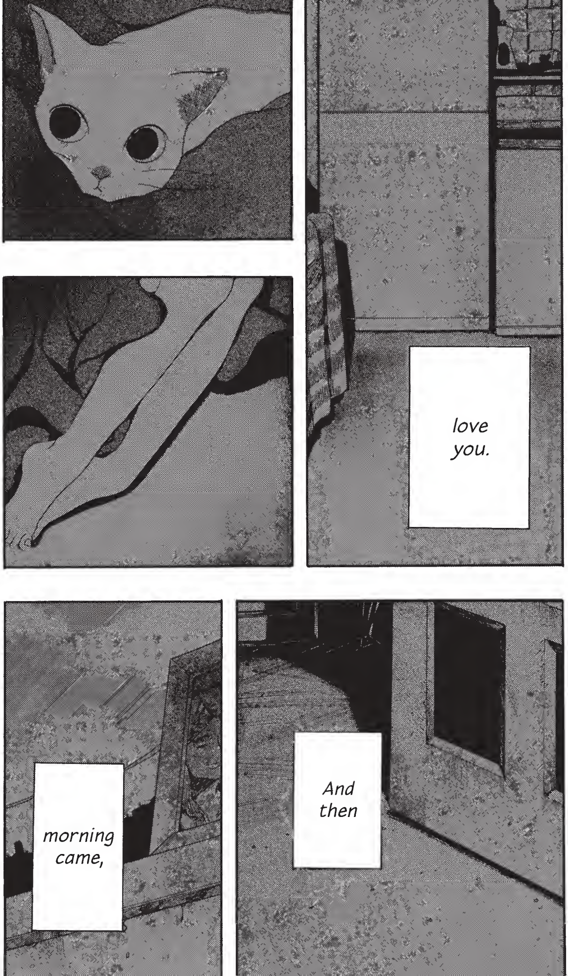


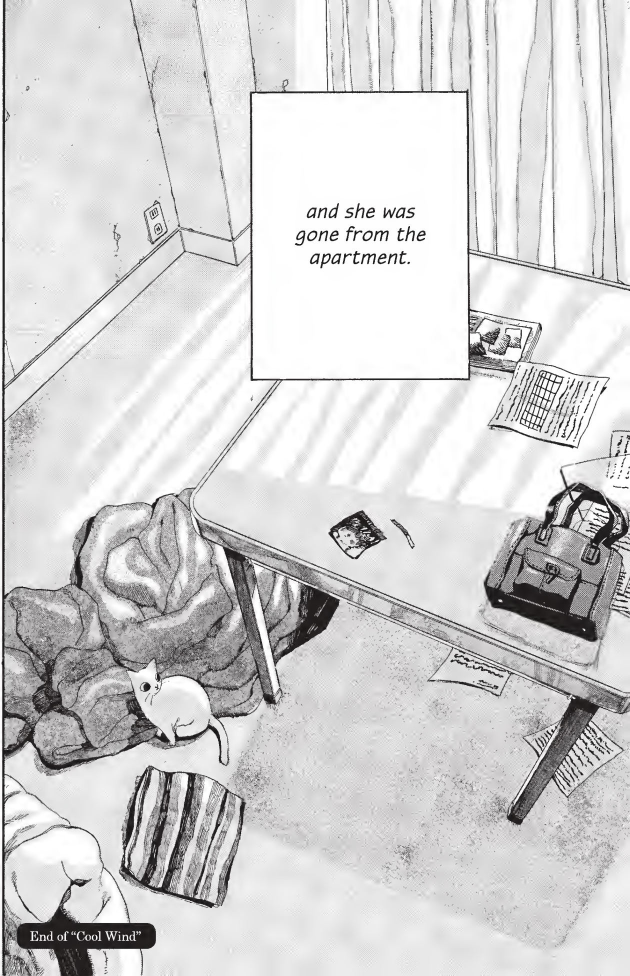

I felt her disconsolation through every one of my hairs,
and little by little, the world's warmth cooled, too.
10 october
BEE



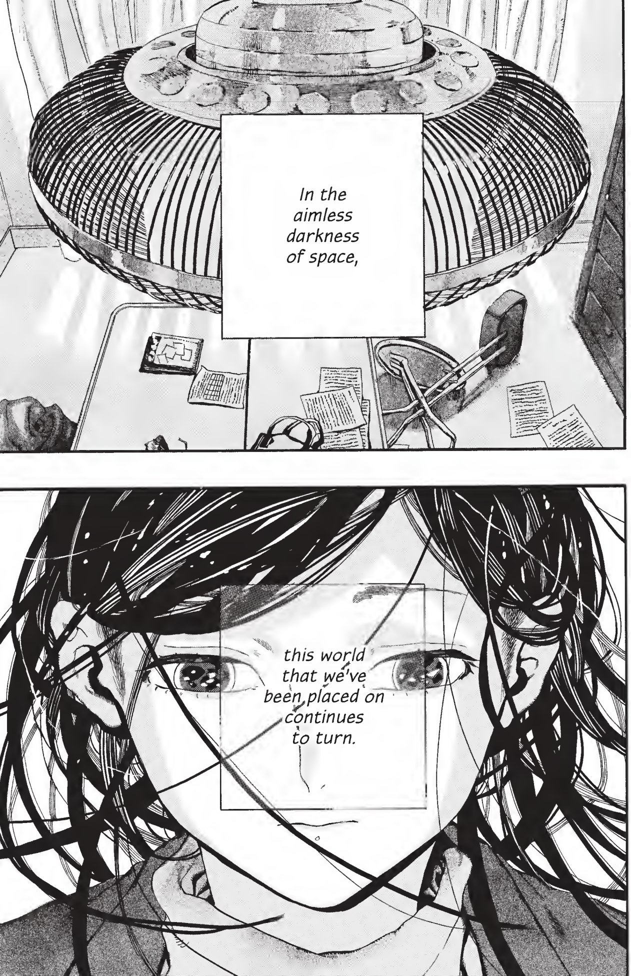


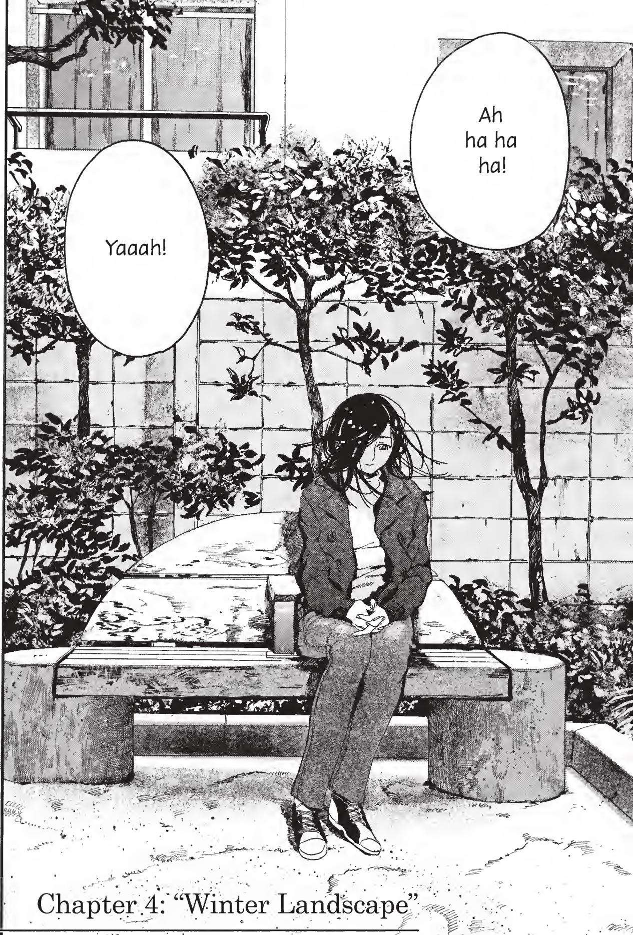

Listen.
GTUN
ゴトン
GTUN
ゴトン
I...


love you.
And then
morning came,

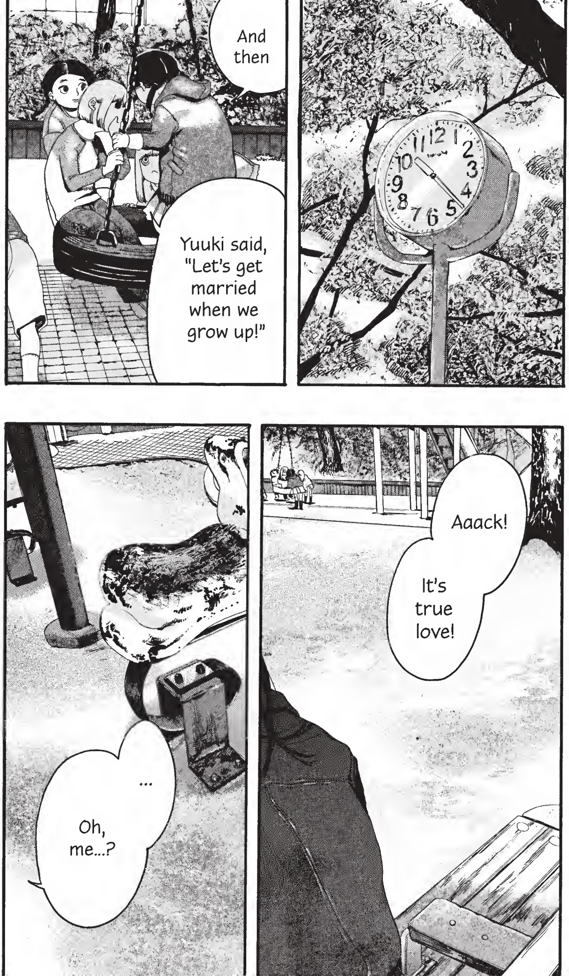

and she was gone from the apartment.

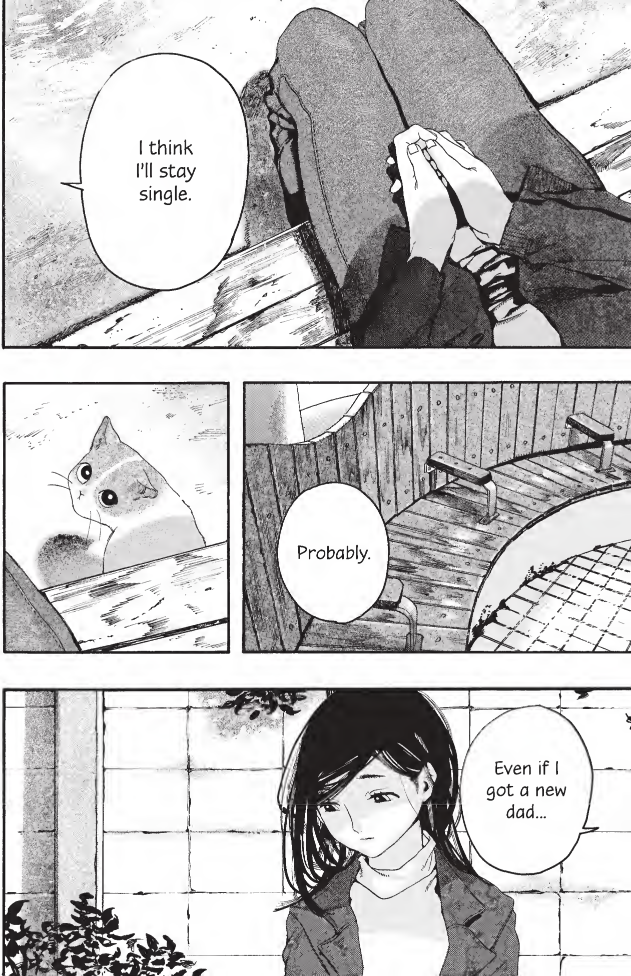
End of “Cool Wind”

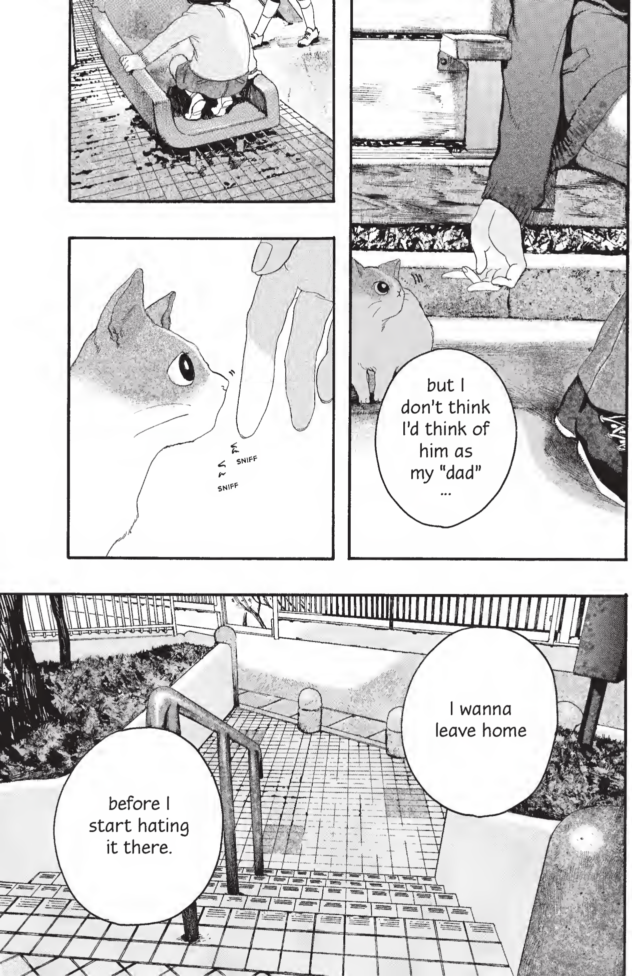

In the aimless darkness of space,
this world that we've been placed on continues to turn.

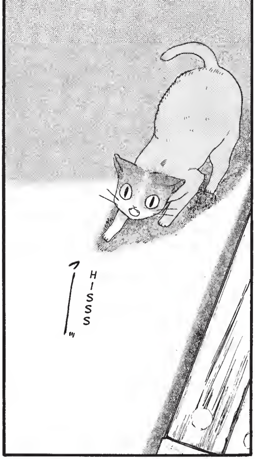

Ah ha ha ha!
Yaaah!

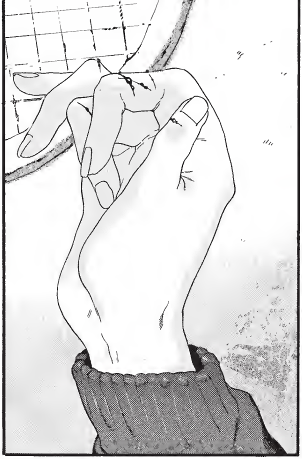
Chapter 4: “Winter Landscape”

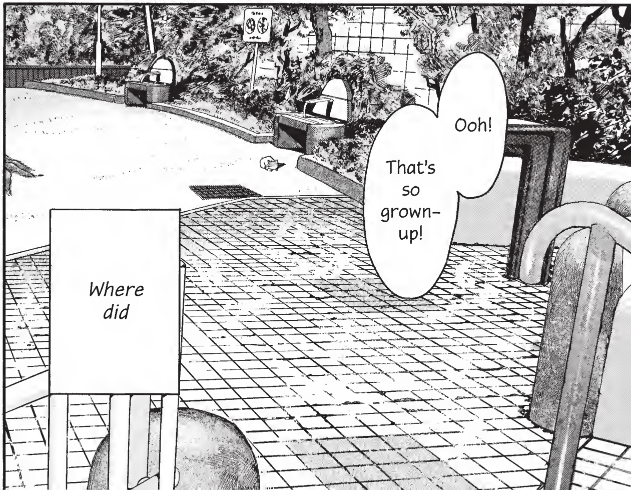

And then
Yuuki said, "Let's get married when we grow up!"
Aaack!
It's true love!
...
Oh, me...?

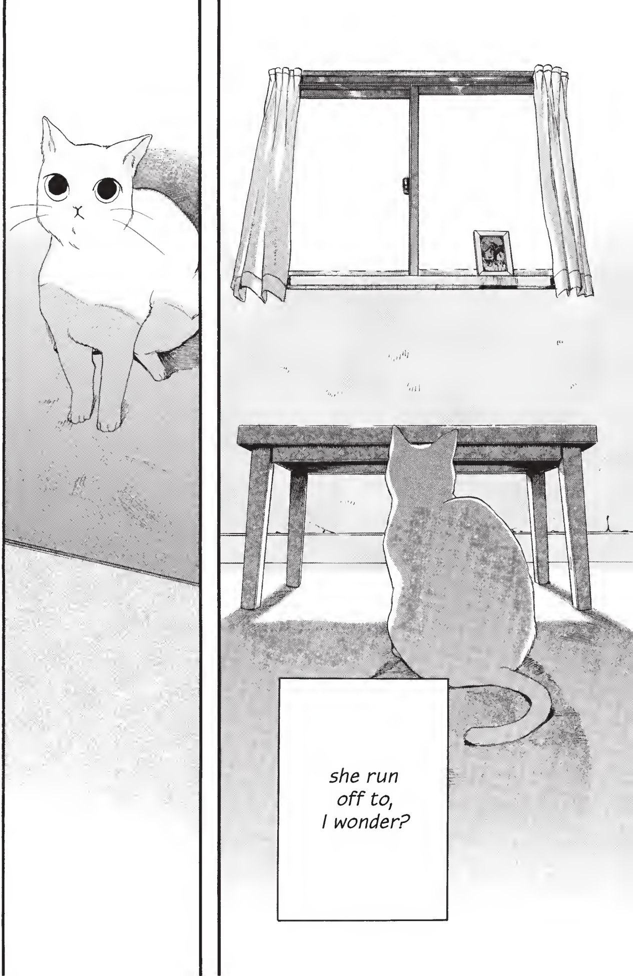

I think I'll stay single.
Probably.
Even if I got a new dad...

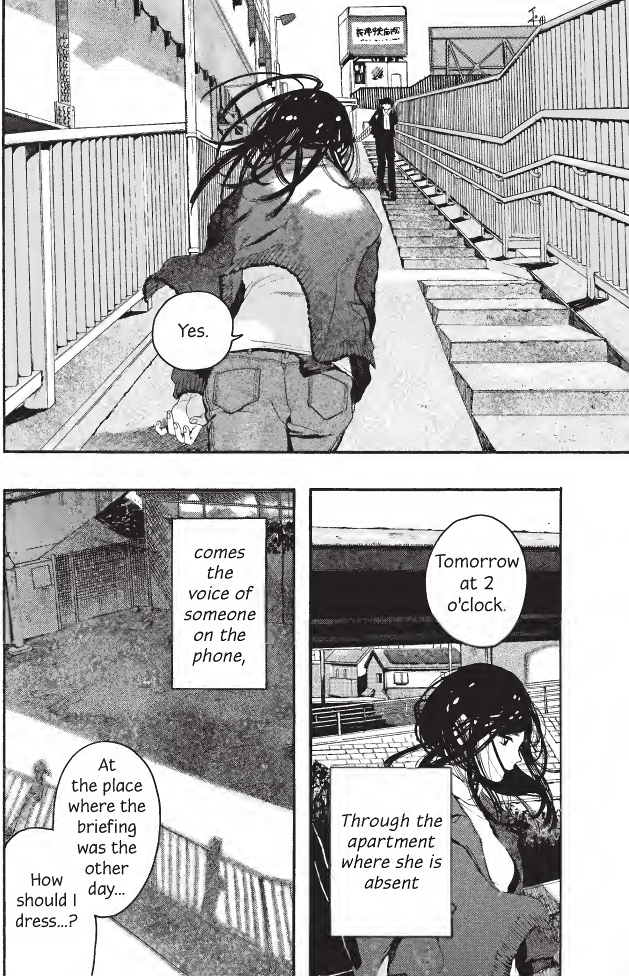

but I don't think I'd think of him as my "dad" ...
SNIFF
SNIFF
I wanna leave home
before I start hating it there.

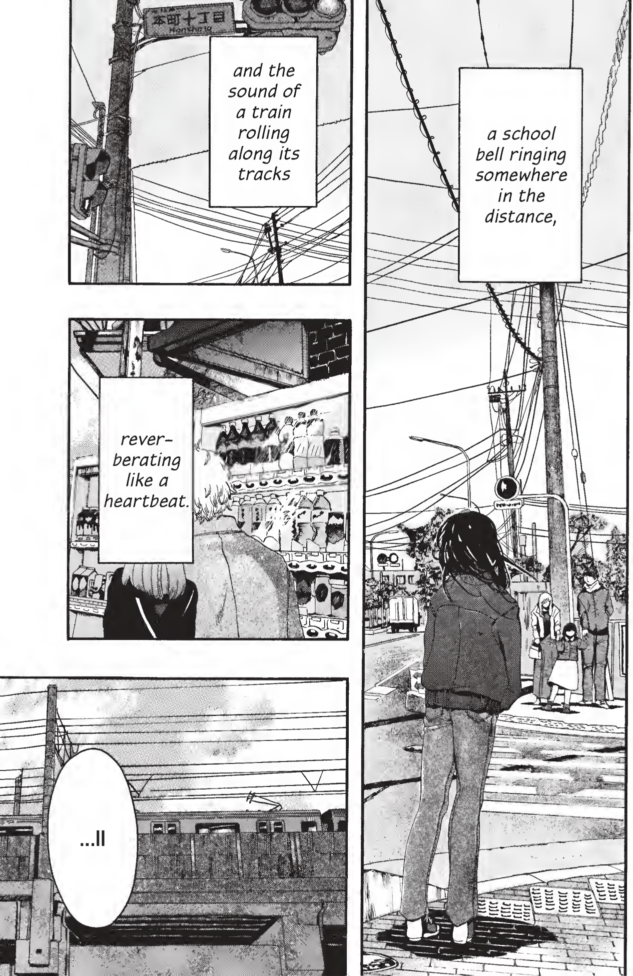

HISSS

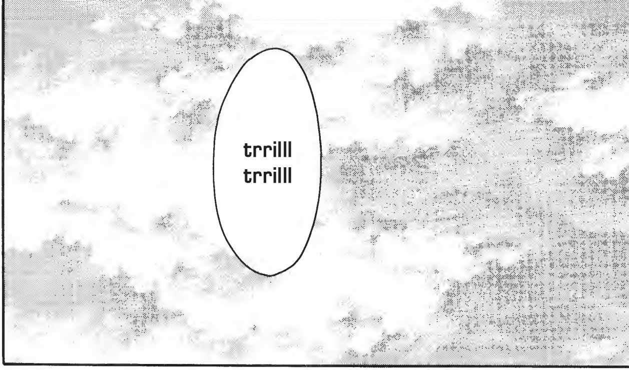


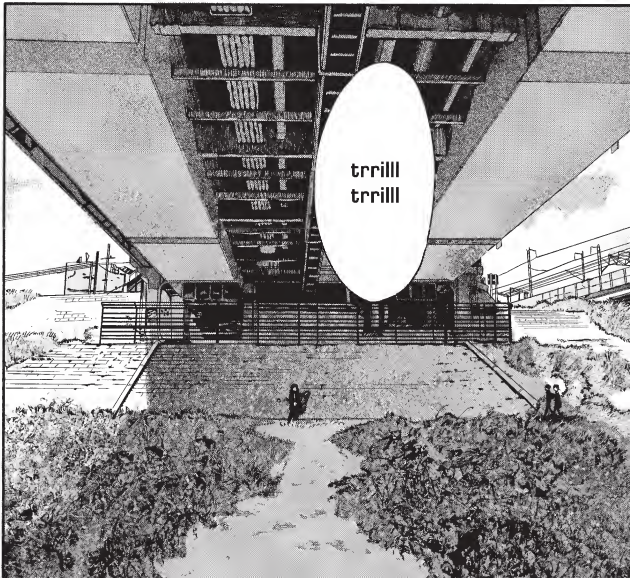

Ooh! That's so grown-up!
Where did

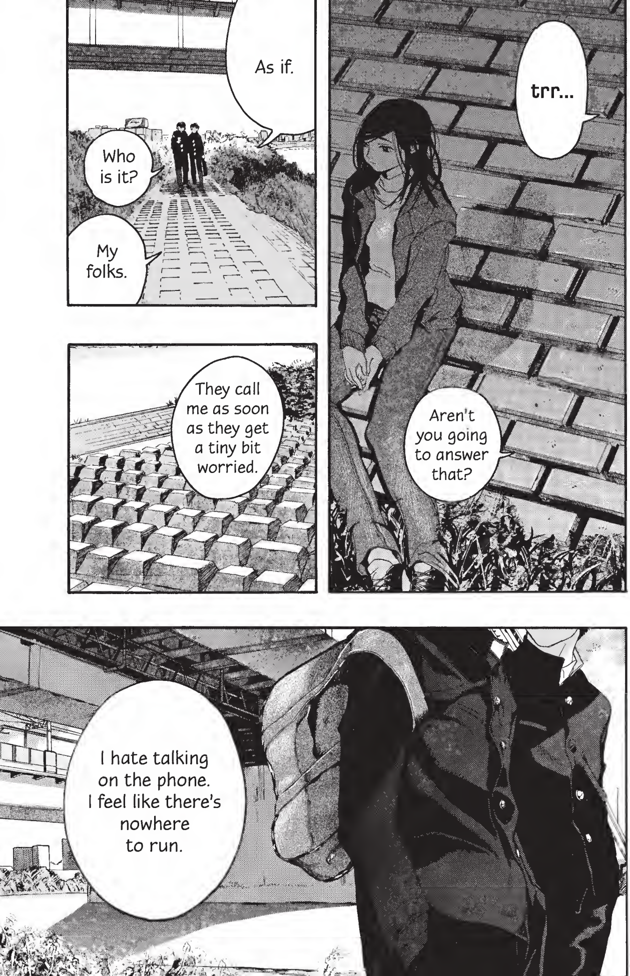

she run off to, I wonder?

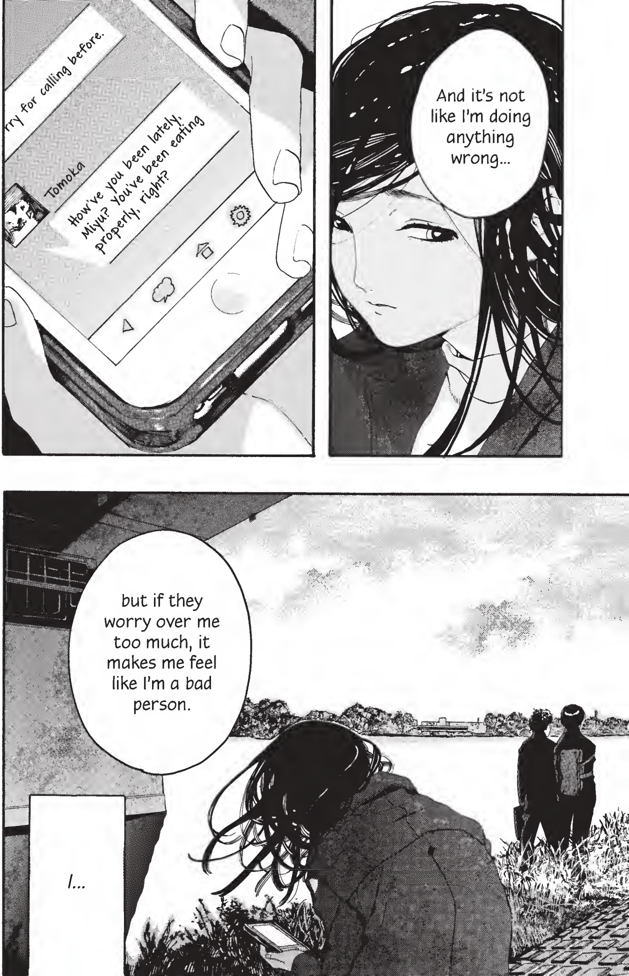

Yes.
Tomorrow at 2 o'clock.
Through the apartment where she is absent
comes the voice of someone on the phone,
At the place where the briefing was the other day...
How should I dress...?

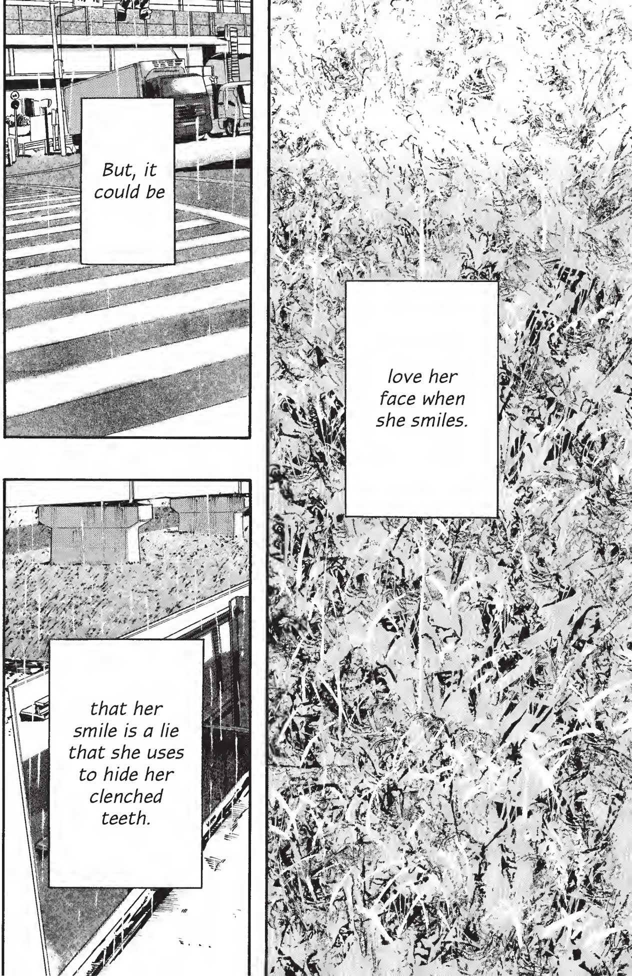

a school bell ringing somewhere in the distance,
本町十丁目
and the sound of a train rolling along its tracks
reverberating like a heartbeat.
...!!

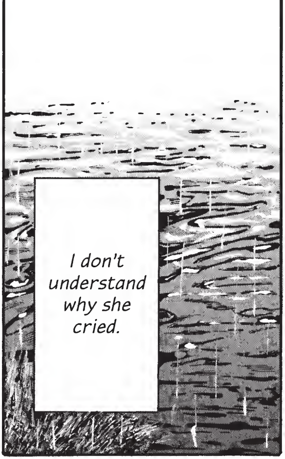

trrilll
trrilll

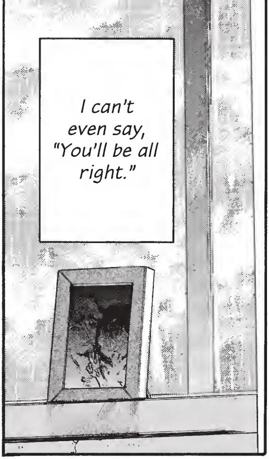

trrilll
trrilll

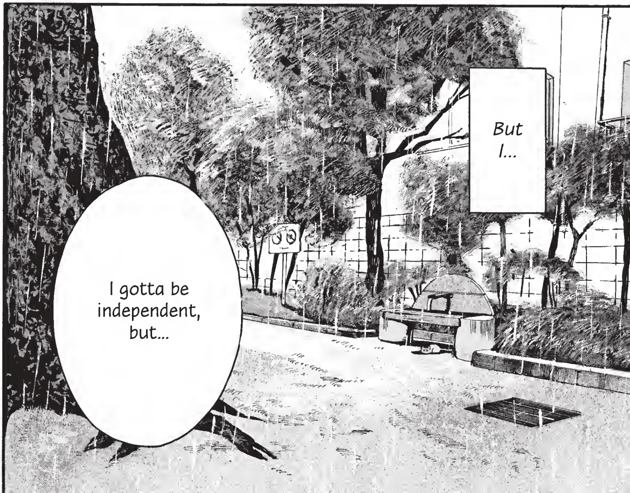

trr...
Aren't you going to answer that?
As if.
Who is it?
My folks.
They call me as soon as they get a tiny bit worried.
I hate talking on the phone. I feel like there's nowhere to run.

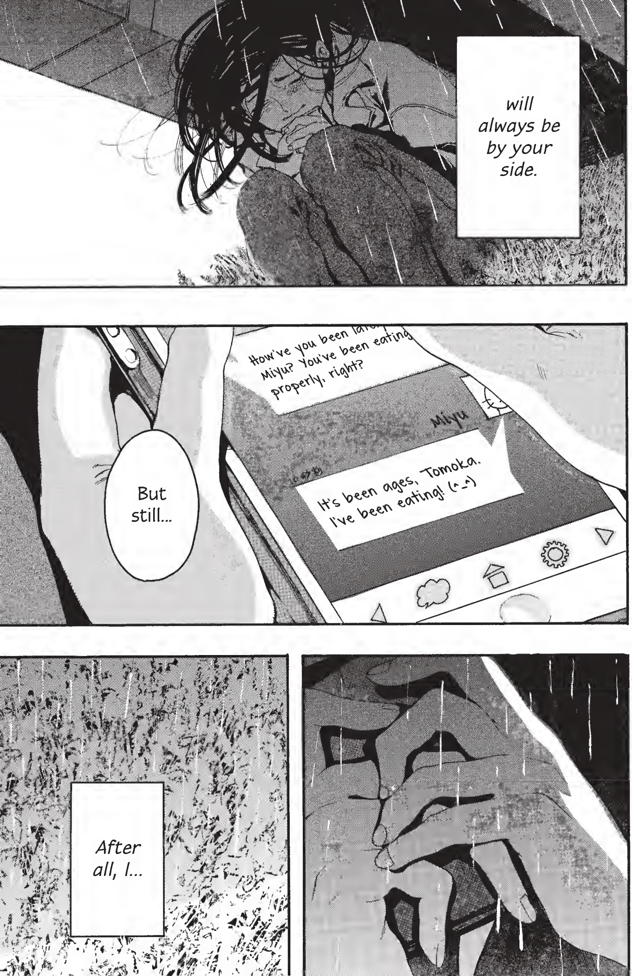

And it's not like I'm doing anything wrong...
rry for calling before.
Tomoka
How've you been lately, Miyu? You've been eating properly, right?
but if they worry over me too much, it makes me feel like I'm a bad person.
I...


love her face when she smiles.
But, it could be
that her smile is a lie that she uses to hide her clenched teeth.


I don't understand why she cried.


I can't even say, "You'll be all right."


But I...
I gotta be independent, but...

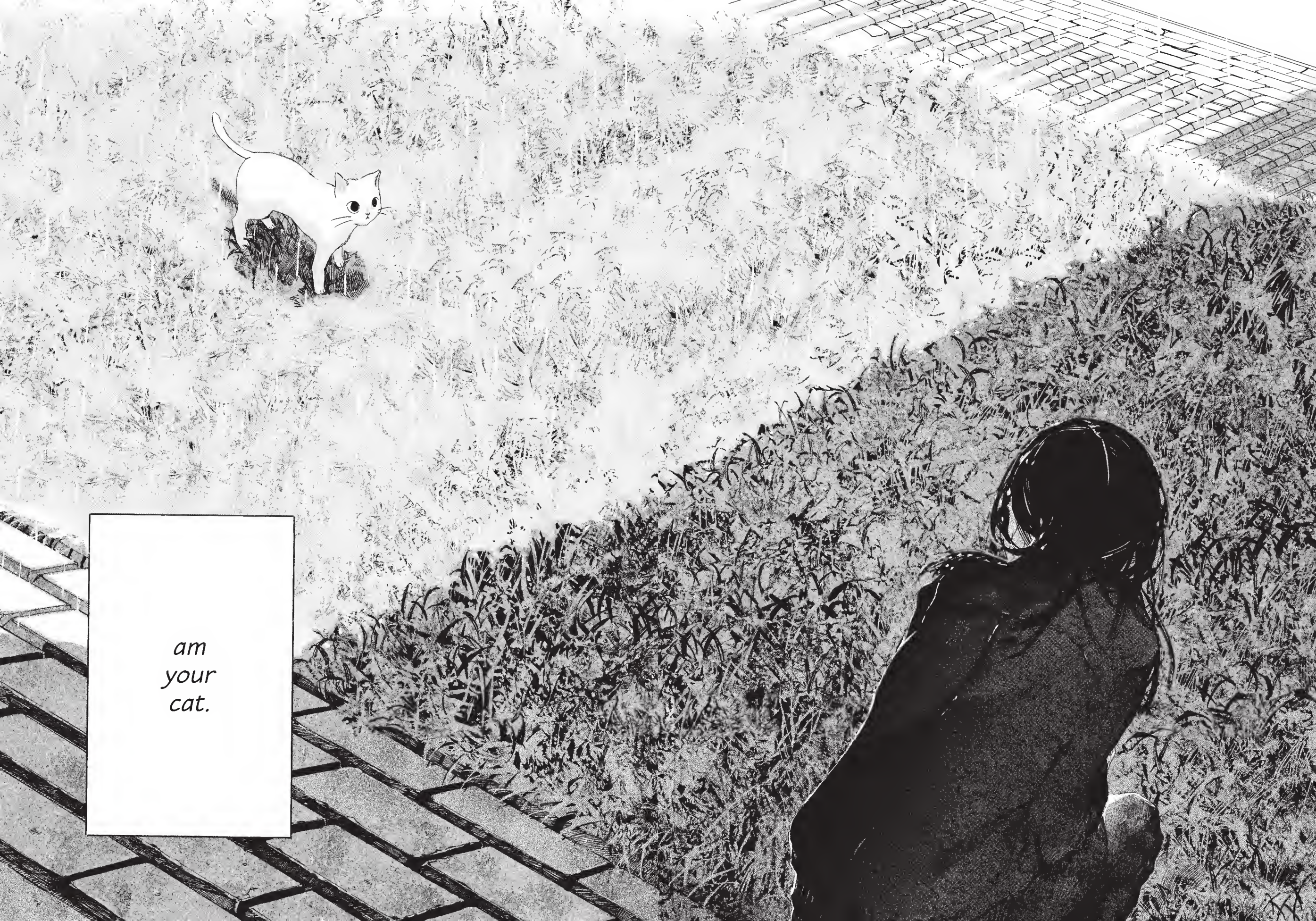

will always be by your side.

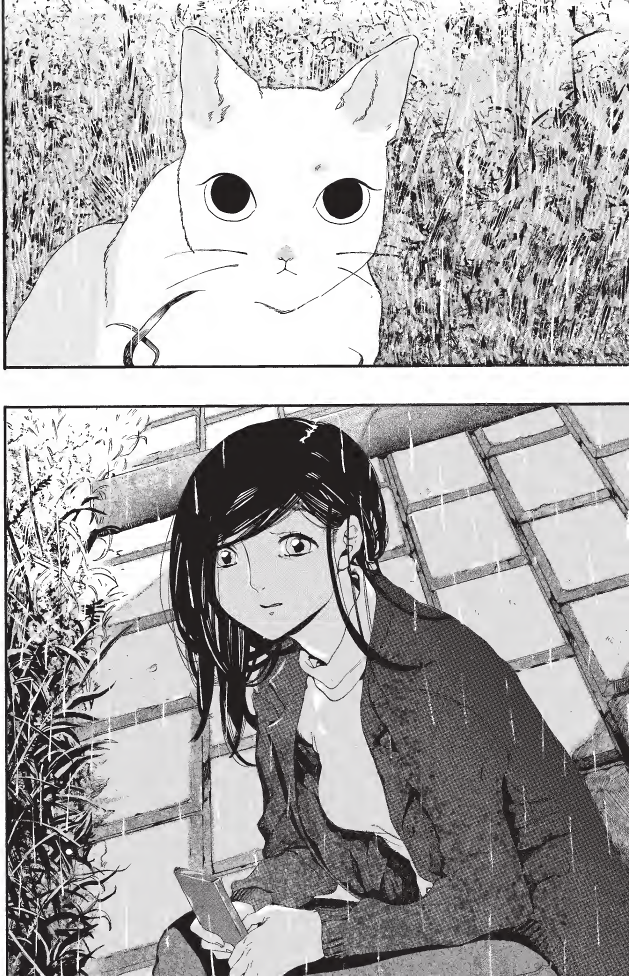
How've you been lat
Miyu? You've been eating
properly, right?

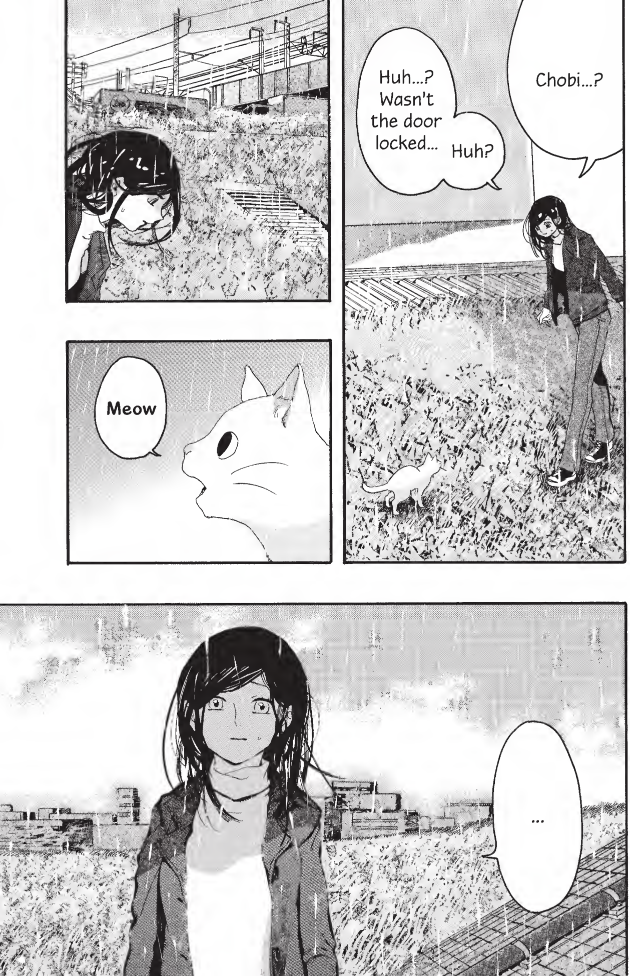
Miyu

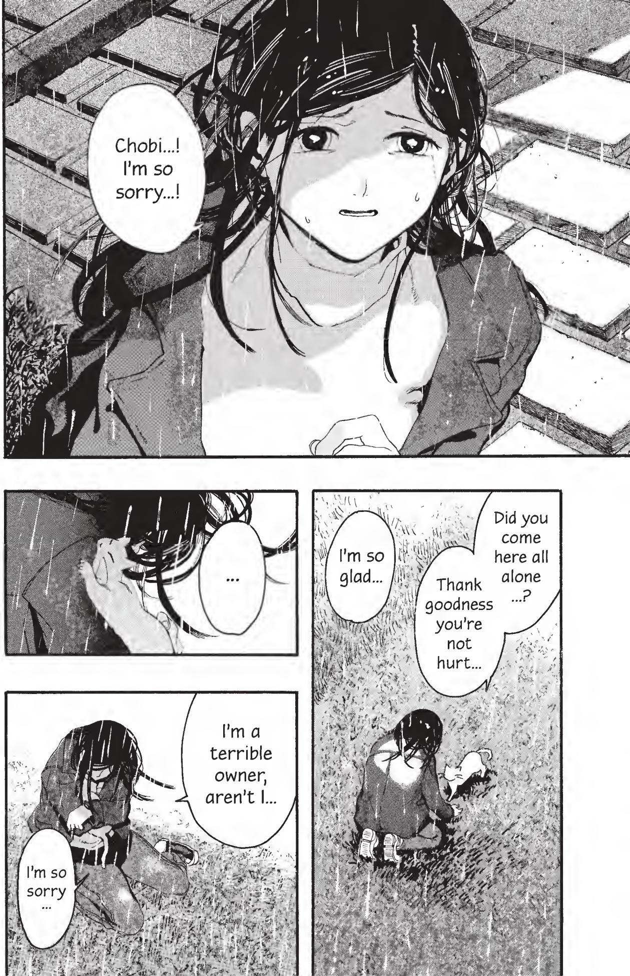
It's been ages, Tomoka.
I've been eating! (^_^)

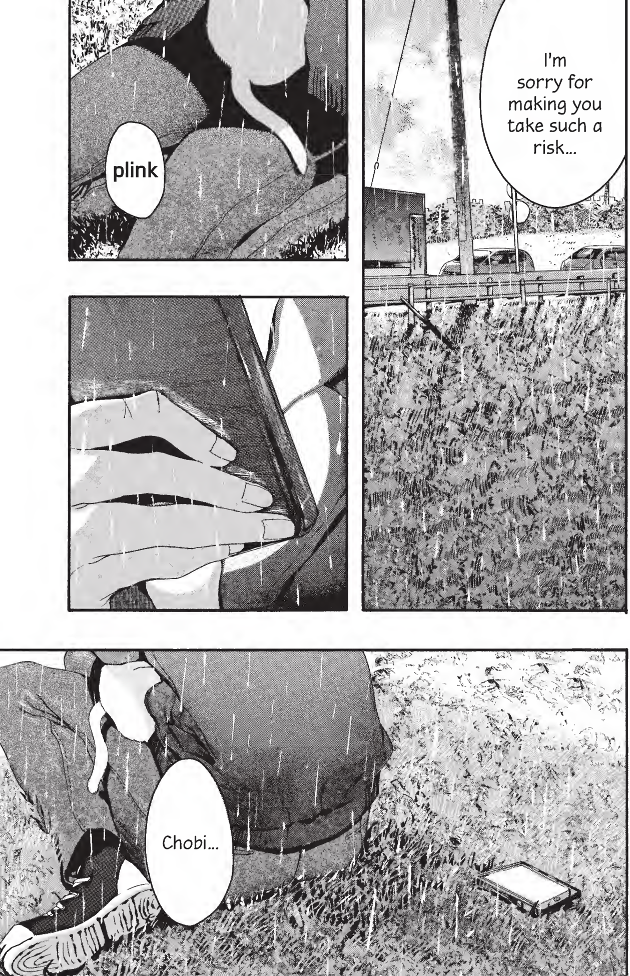
But still...
After all, I...

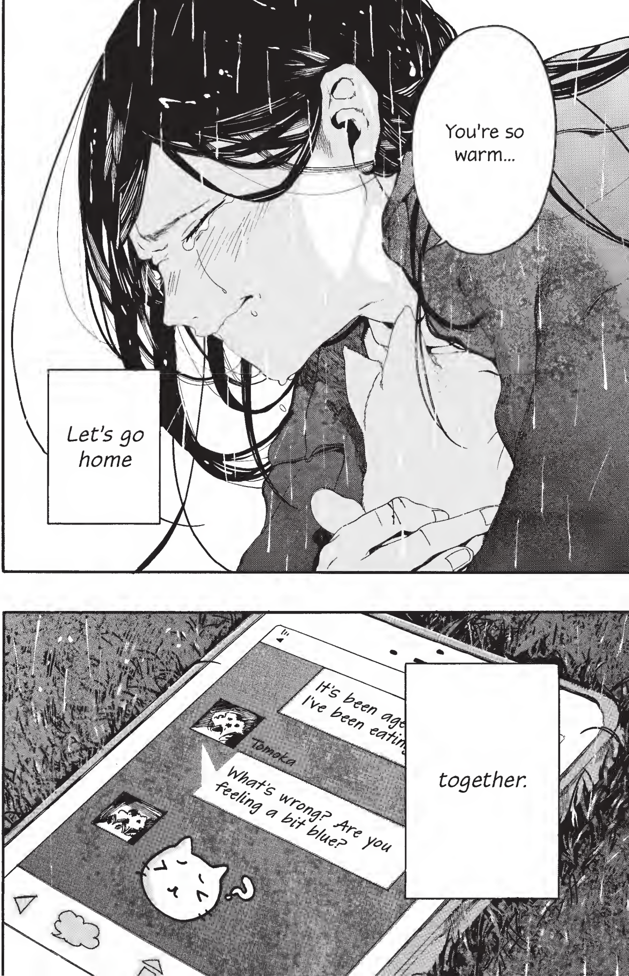

am your cat.




Chobi...?
Huh...? Wasn't the door locked...
Huh?
Meow
...

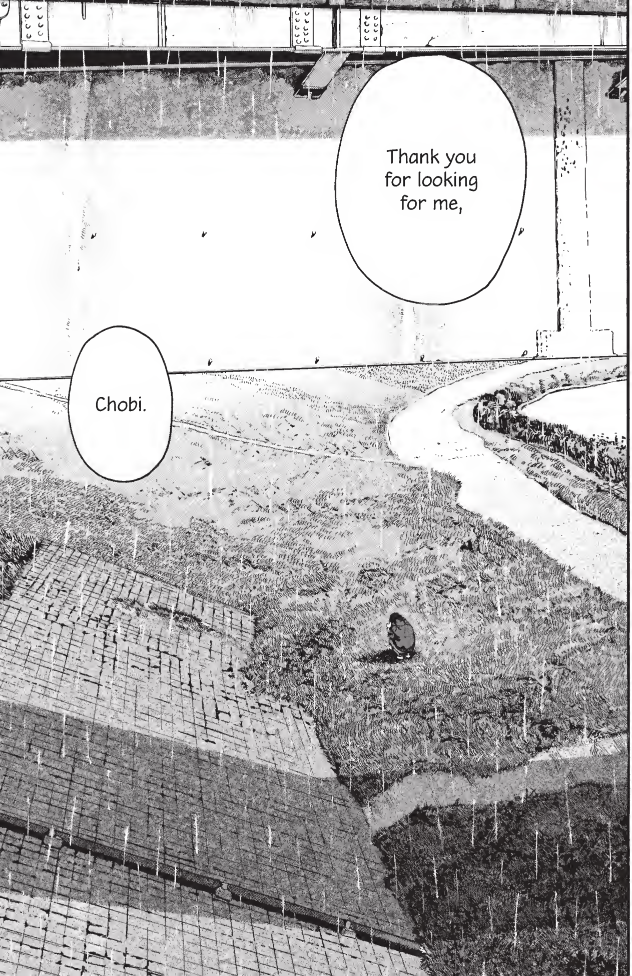

Chobi...! I'm so sorry...!
Did you come here all alone ...?
Thank goodness you're not hurt...
I'm so glad...
...
I'm a terrible owner, aren't I...
I'm so sorry ...

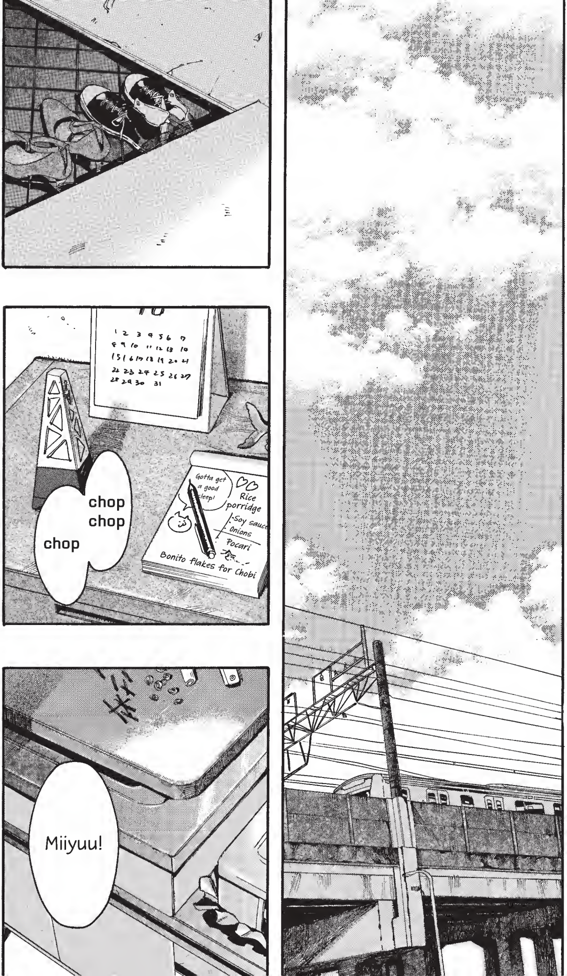

I'm sorry for making you take such a risk...
plink
Chobi...

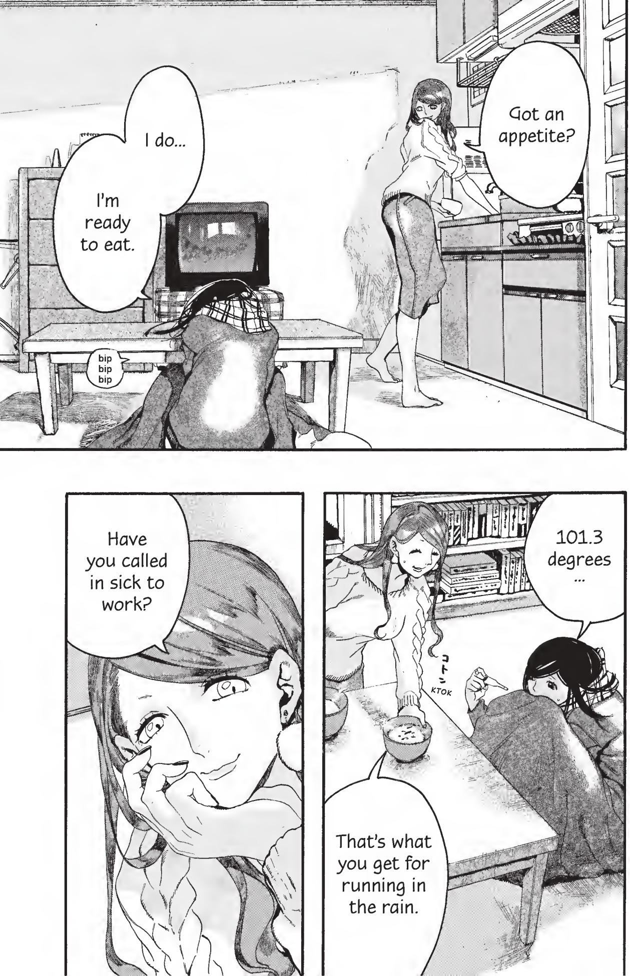

You're so warm...
Let's go home
together.
Tomoka

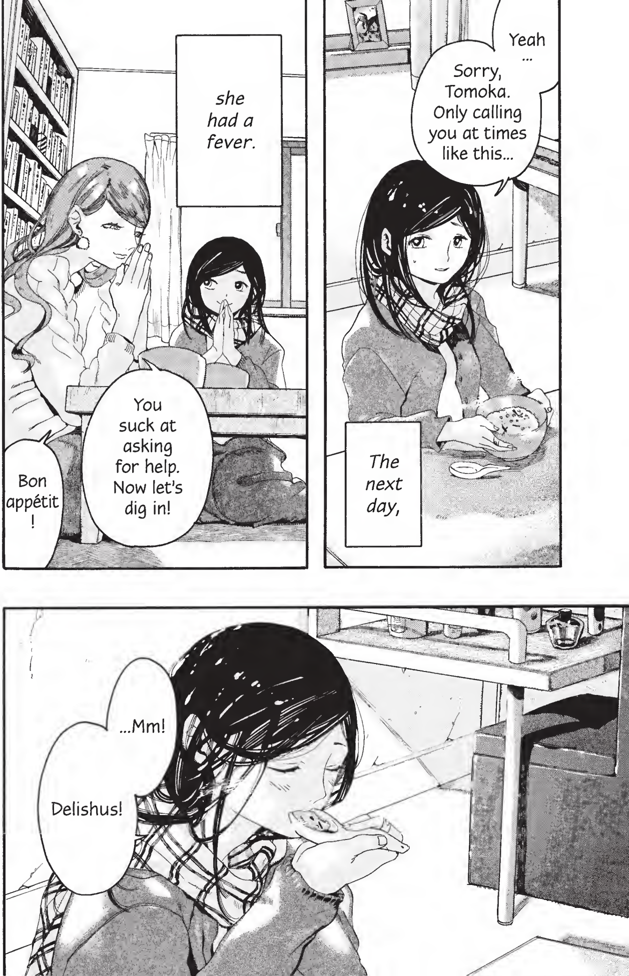
It's been age
I've been eatin

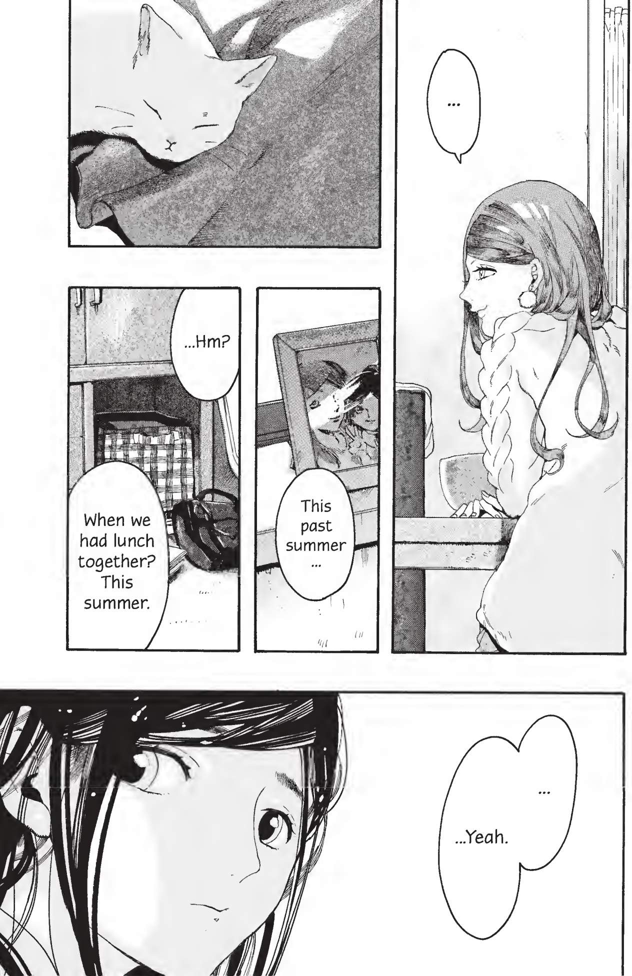
What's wrong? Are you feeling a bit blue?

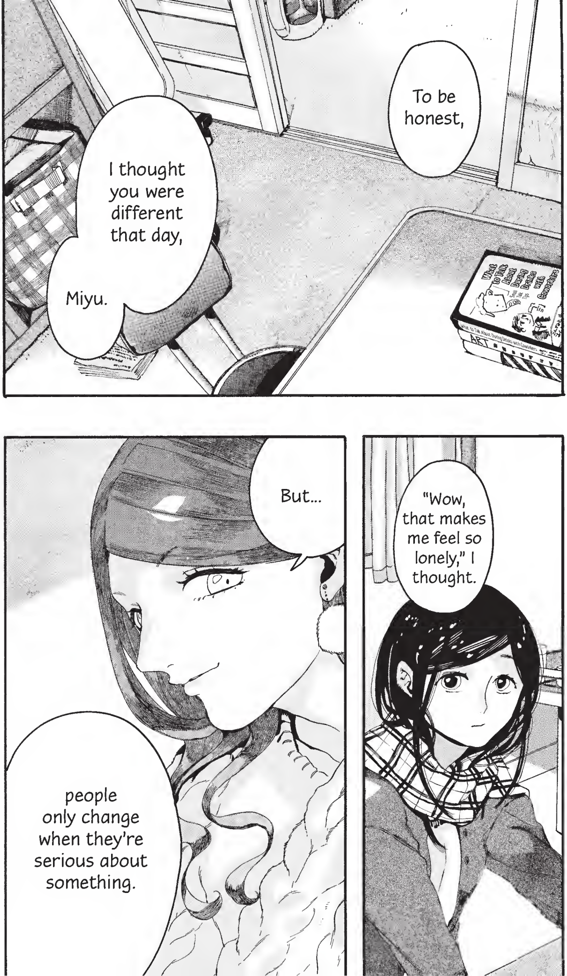

Thank you for looking for me,
Chobi.

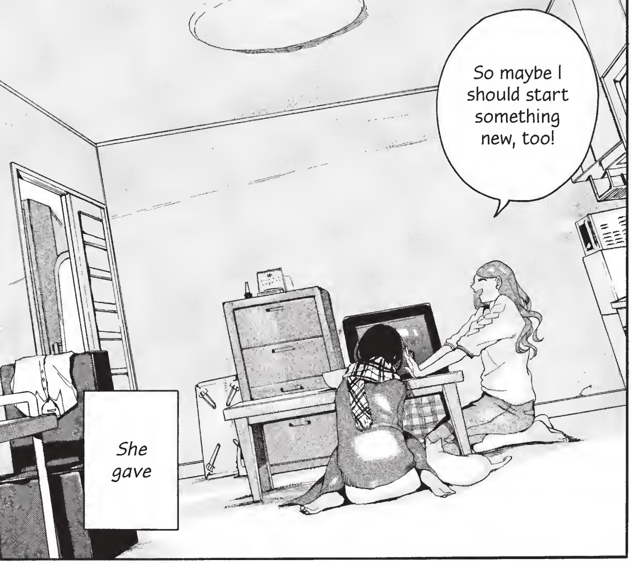

Gotta get a good sleep!
Rice porridge
Soy sauce
Onions
Pocari
Bonito flakes for Chobi
chop chop
chop
Miiyuu!

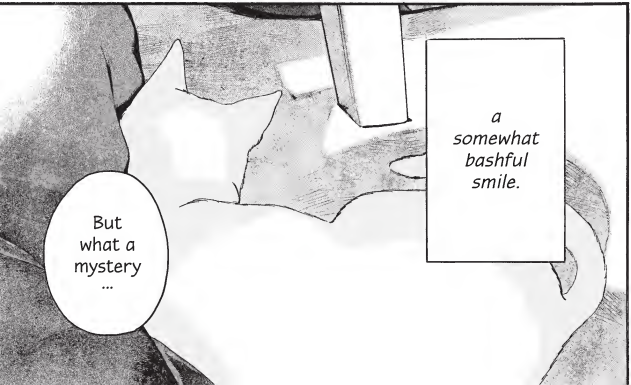

Got an appetite?
I do...
I'm ready to eat.
bip bip bip
101.3 degrees ...
コトッ
KTOK
That's what you get for running in the rain.
Have you called in sick to work?

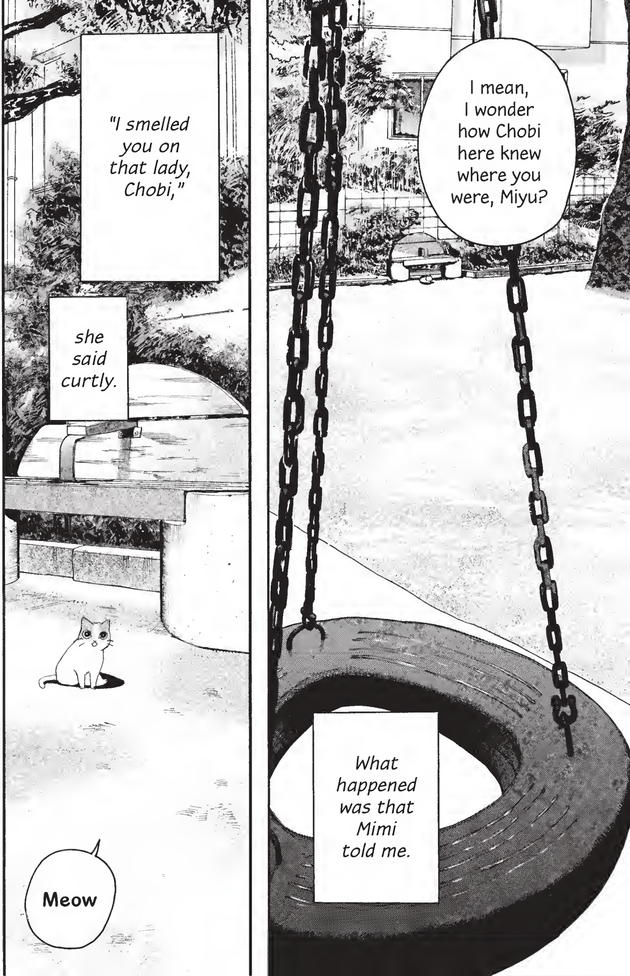

Yeah ...
Sorry, Tomoka. Only calling you at times like this...
The next day,
she had a fever.
You suck at asking for help. Now let's dig in!
Bon appétit!
...Mm!
Delishus!

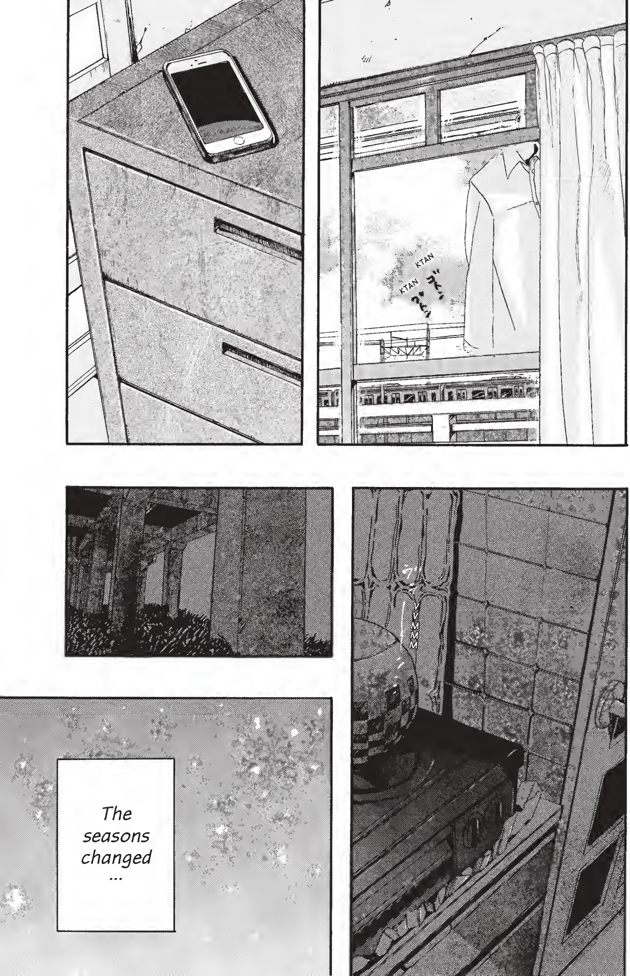

...
This past summer ...
...Hm?
When we had lunch together? This summer.
...
...Yeah.

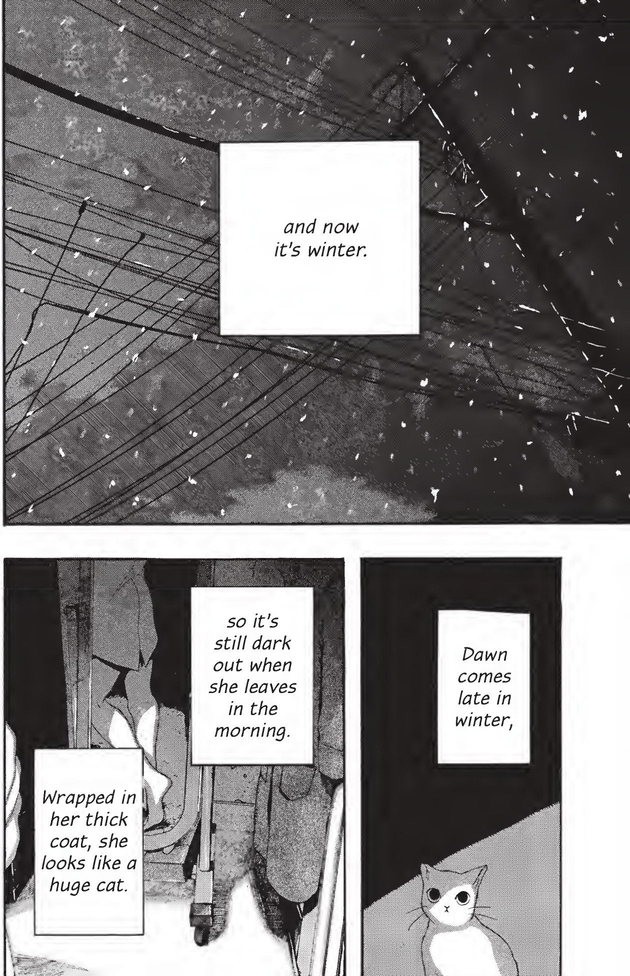

To be honest,
I thought you were different that day,
Miyu.
What to Talk About During Drinks with Coworkers
What to Talk About During Drinks with Coworkers
ART
"Wow, that makes me feel so lonely," I thought.
But...
people only change when they're serious about something.

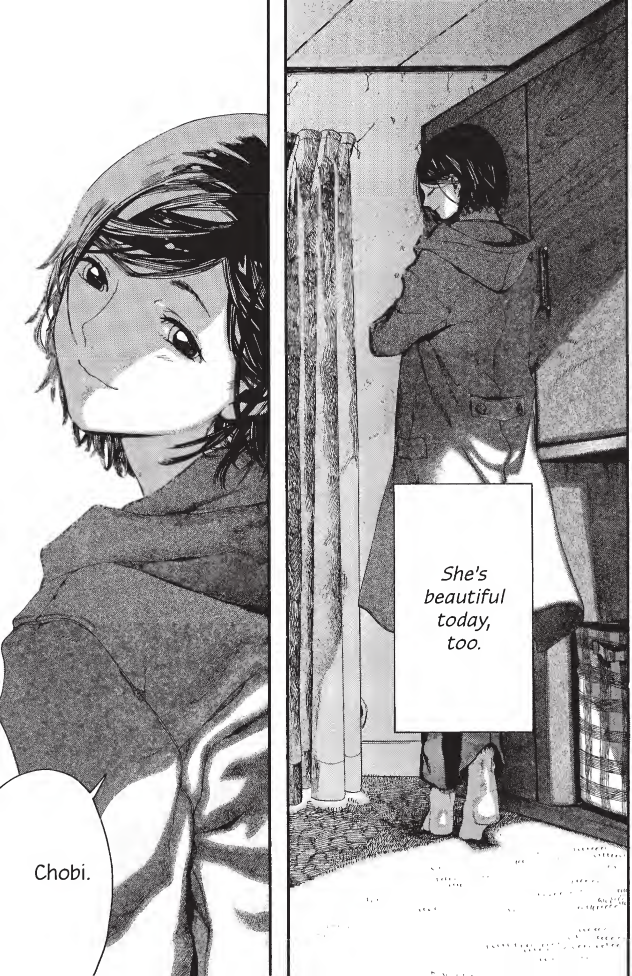

So maybe I should start something new, too!
She gave

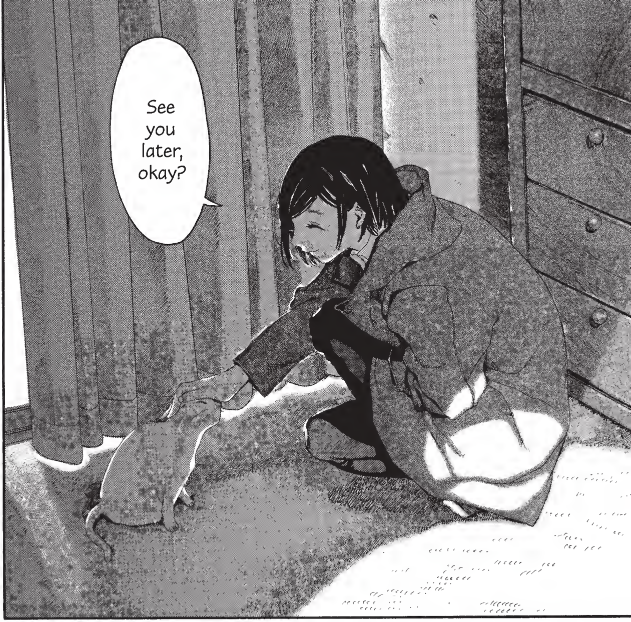

a somewhat bashful smile.
But what a mystery ...

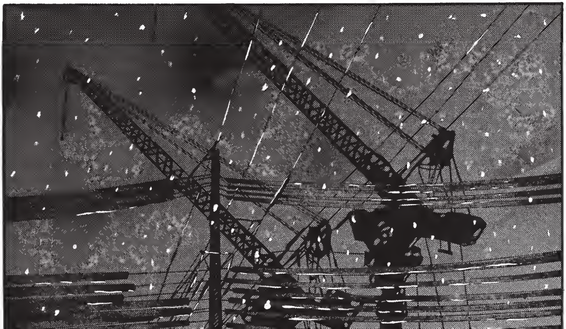

I mean, I wonder how Chobi here knew where you were, Miyu?
What happened was that Mimi told me.
"I smelled you on that lady, Chobi,"
she said curtly.
Meow

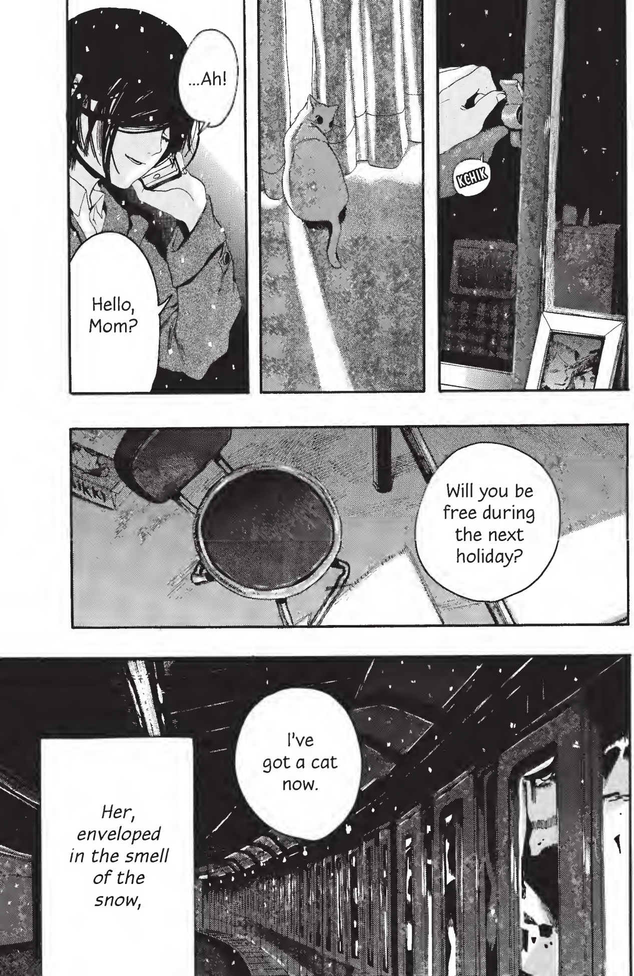

KTAN KTAN
ガタン ゴトン
ヴー
VVMMM
The seasons changed ...

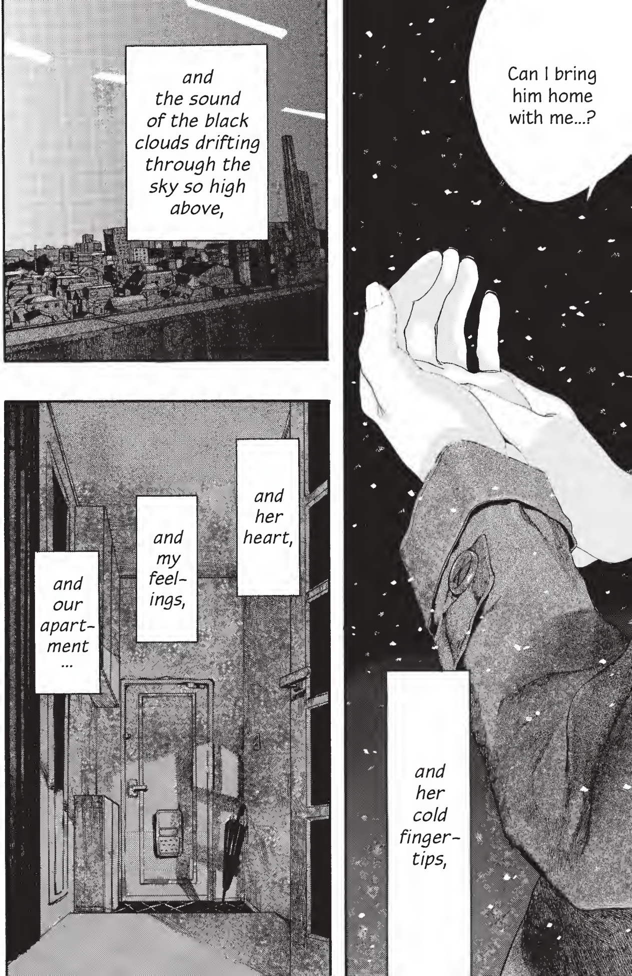

and now it's winter.
Dawn comes late in winter,
so it's still dark out when she leaves in the morning.
Wrapped in her thick coat, she looks like a huge cat.

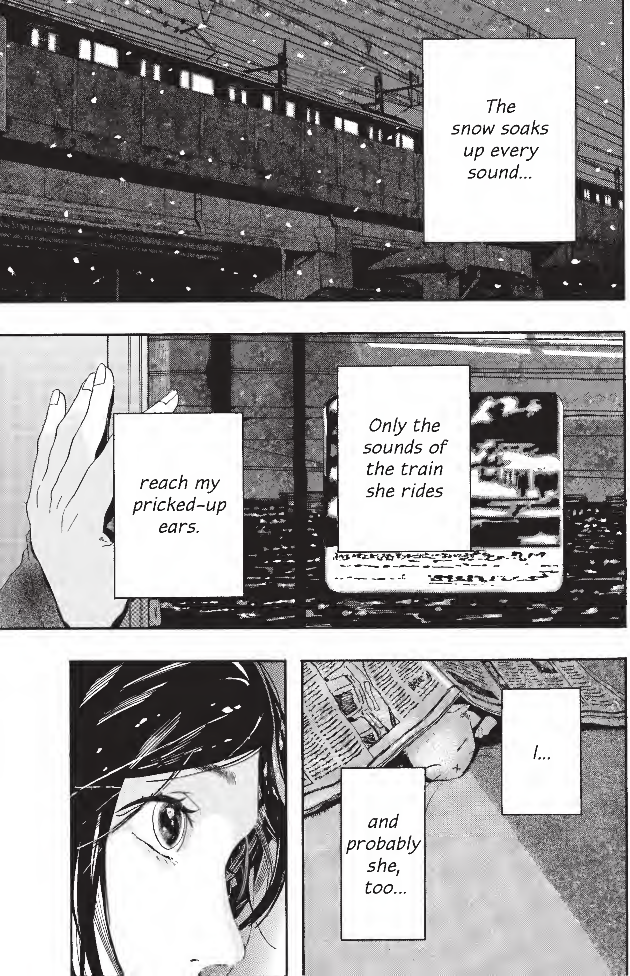

She's beautiful today, too.
Chobi.

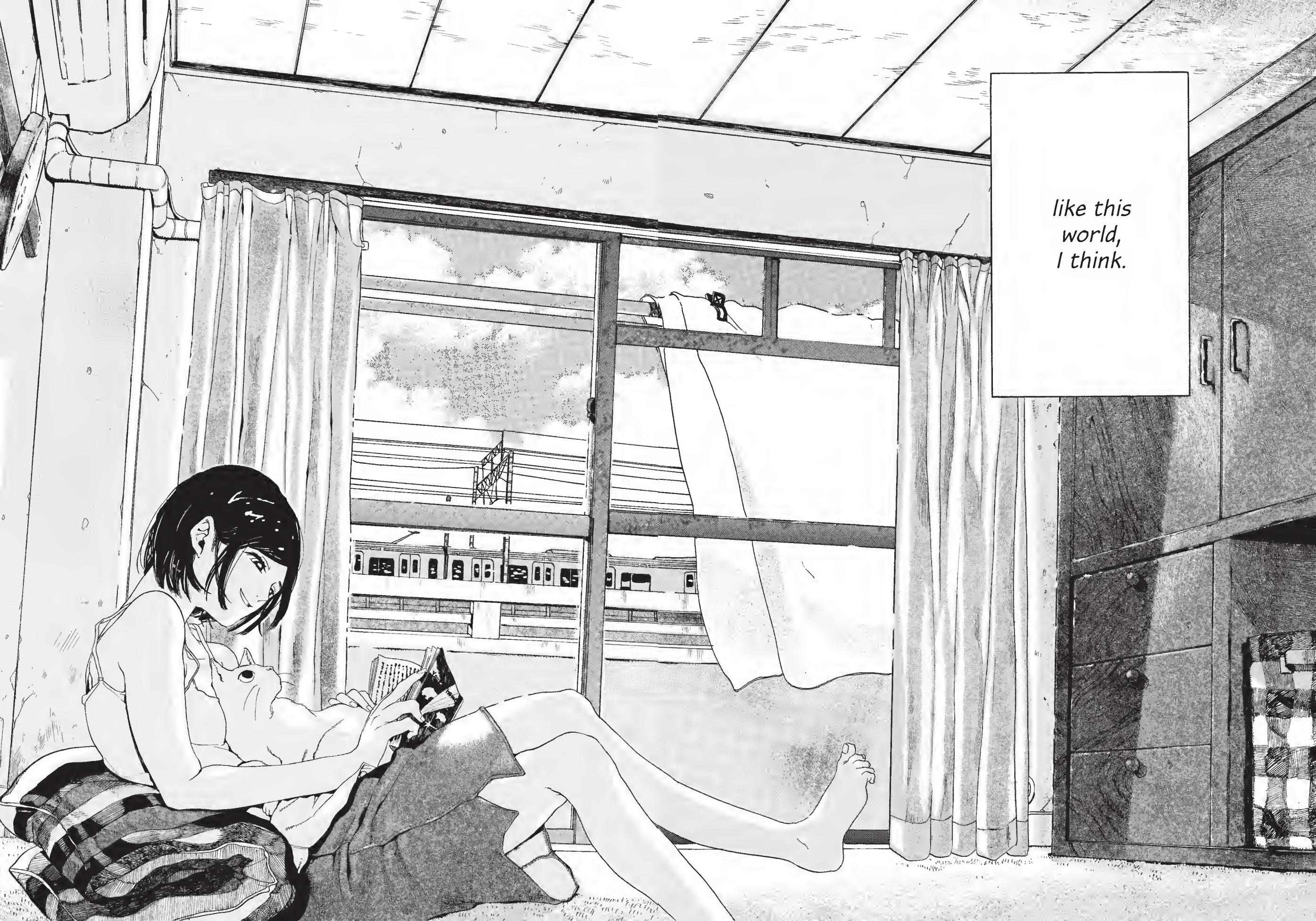

See you later, okay?

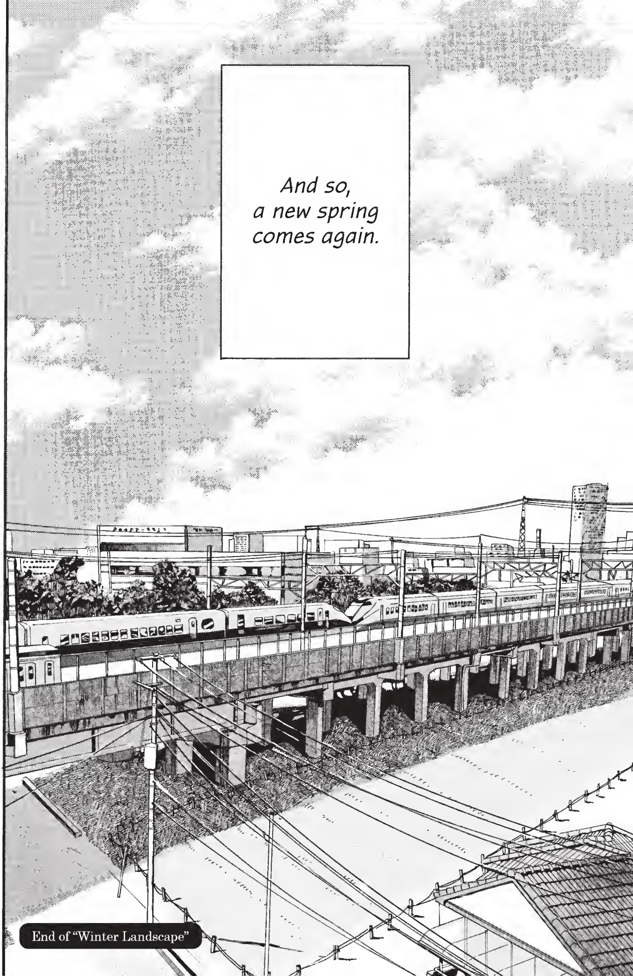



KCHIK
...Ah!
Hello, Mom?
Will you be free during the next holiday?
I've got a cat now.
Her, enveloped in the smell of the snow,


Can I bring him home with me...?
and her cold fingertips,
and the sound of the black clouds drifting through the sky so high above,
and her heart,
and my feelings,
and our apartment ...

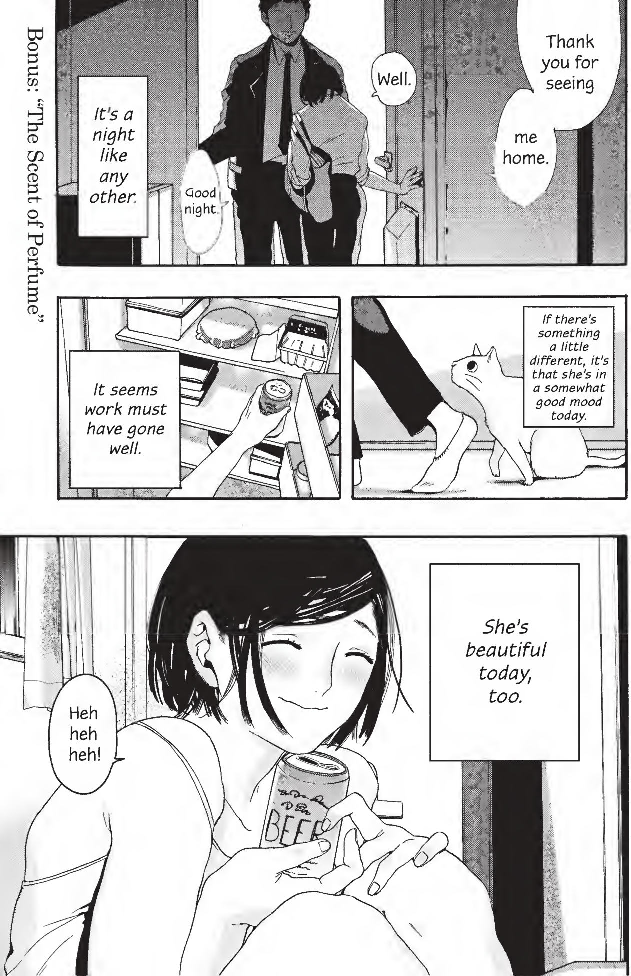

The snow soaks up every sound...
Only the sounds of the train she rides
reach my pricked-up ears.
I...
and probably she, too...

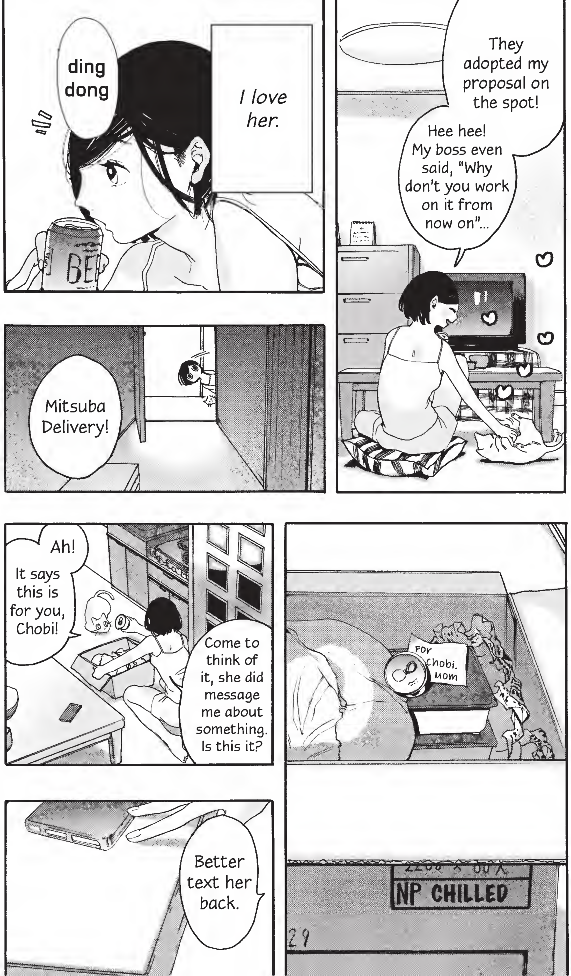

like this
world,
I think.

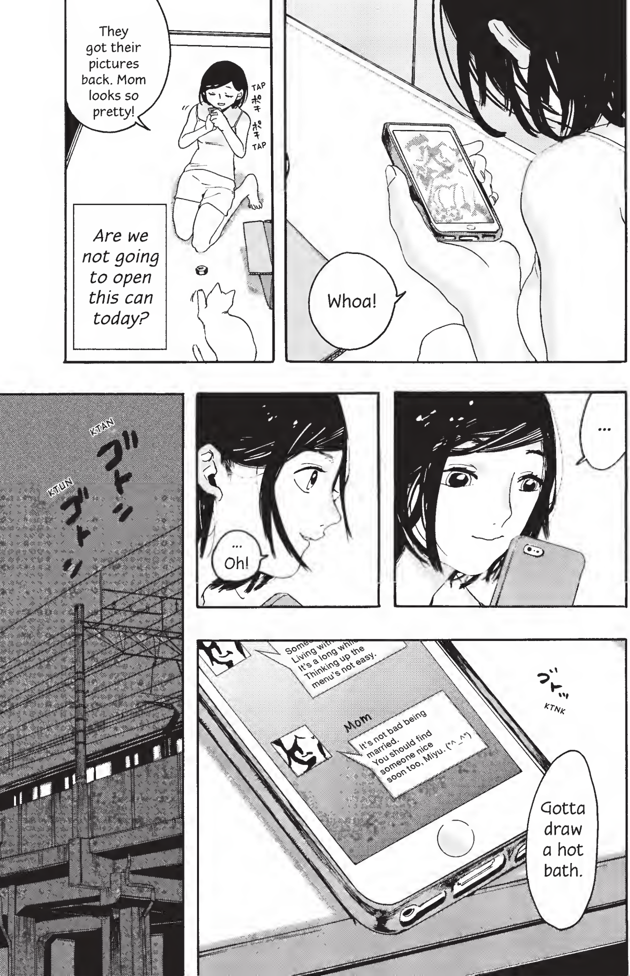

And so, a new spring comes again.

End of "Winter Landscape"

Bonus: "The Scent of Perfume"


Thank you for seeing me home.
Well.
Good night.
It's a night like any other.
If there's something a little different, it's that she's in a somewhat good mood today.
It seems work must have gone well.
She's beautiful today, too.
Heh heh heh!
BEER

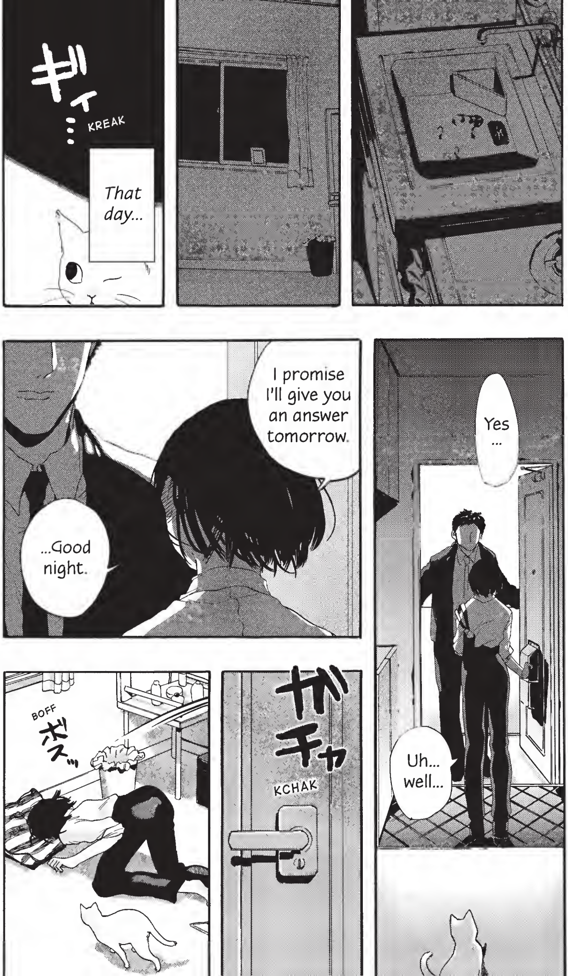

They adopted my proposal on the spot!
Hee hee! My boss even said, "Why don't you work on it from now on"...
I love her.
ding dong
Mitsuba Delivery!
For Chobi. Mom
NP CHILLED
29
Ah! It says this is for you, Chobi!
Come to think of it, she did message me about something. Is this it?
Better text her back.

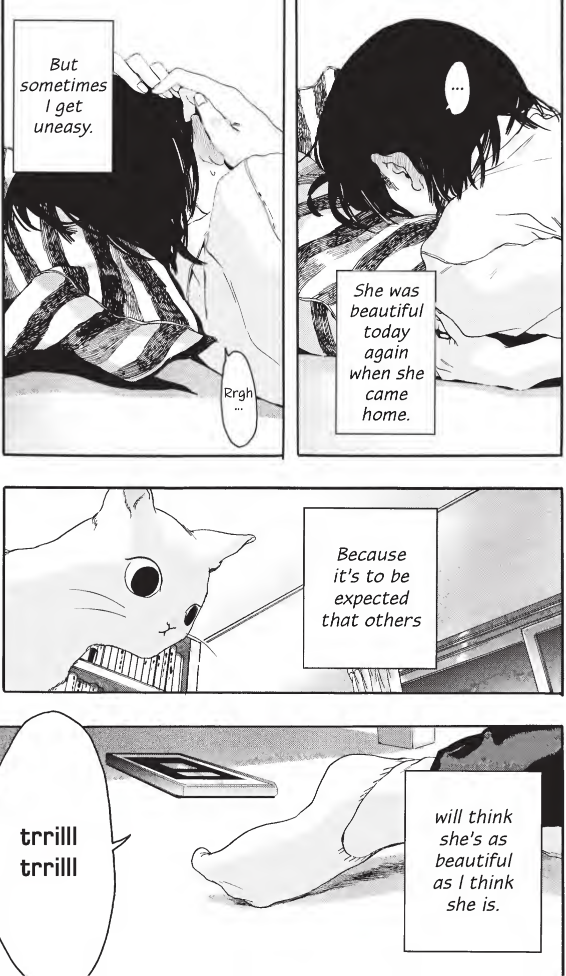

They got their pictures back. Mom looks so pretty!
TAP ポチ
ポチ TAP
Are we not going to open this can today?
Whoa!
KTAN ゴトッ
KTUN ゴトッ
... Oh!
...
ゴトッ KTNK
Gotta draw a hot bath.

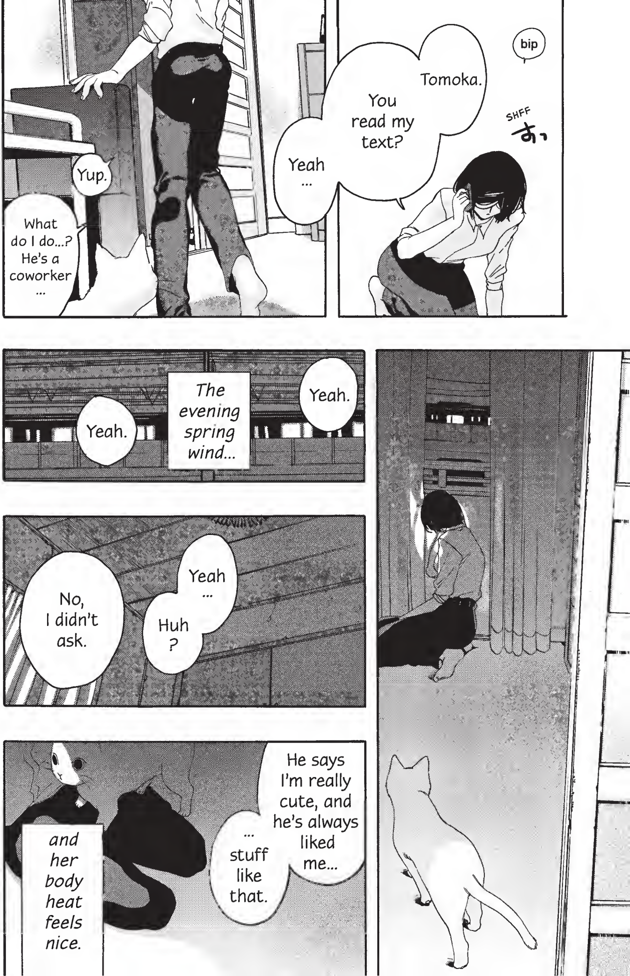
Some
Living with
It's a long whi
Thinking up the menu's not easy.

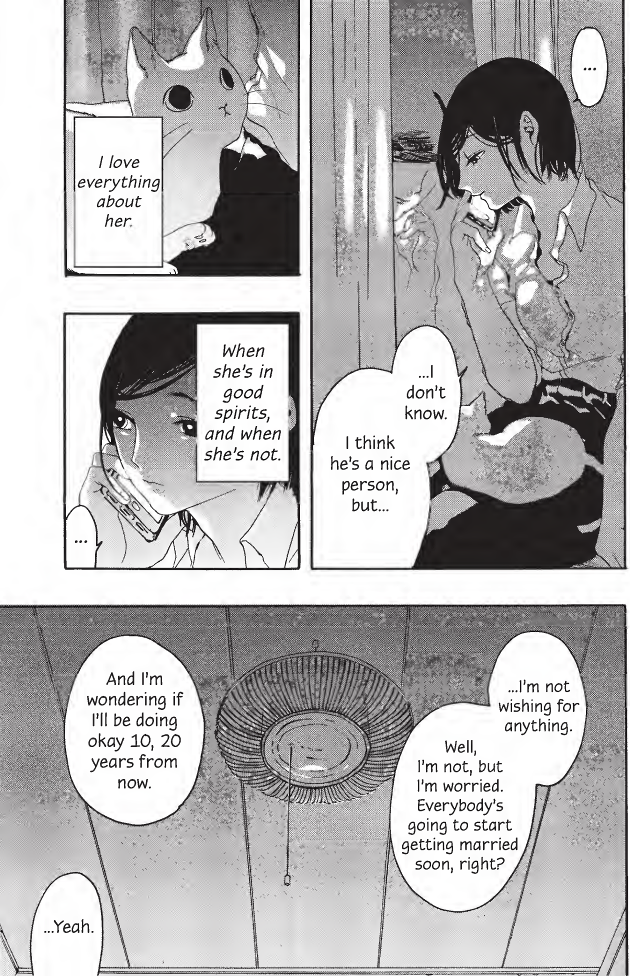
Mom

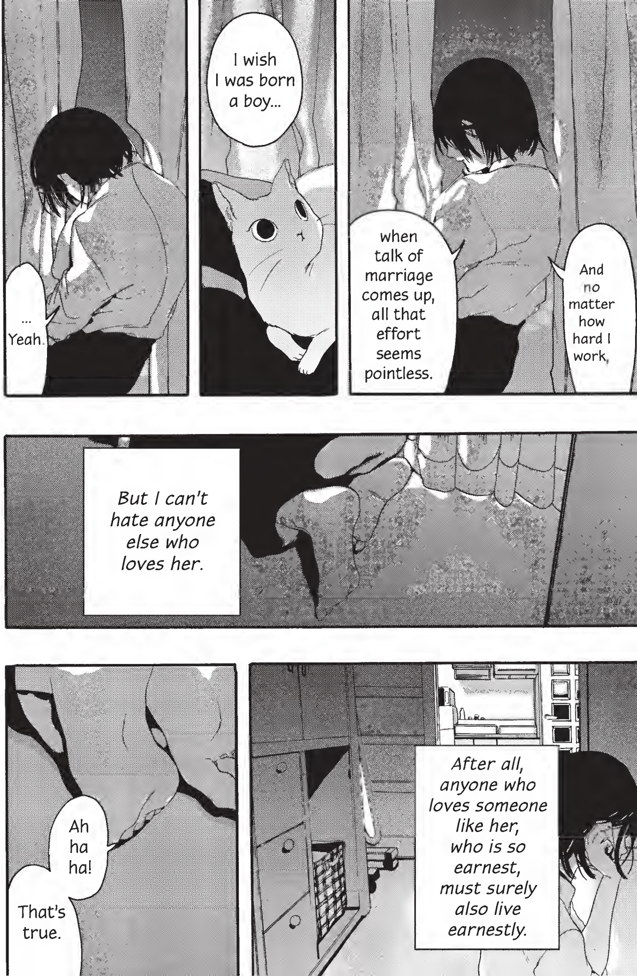
It's not bad being married. You should find someone nice soon too, Miyu. (*^_^*)

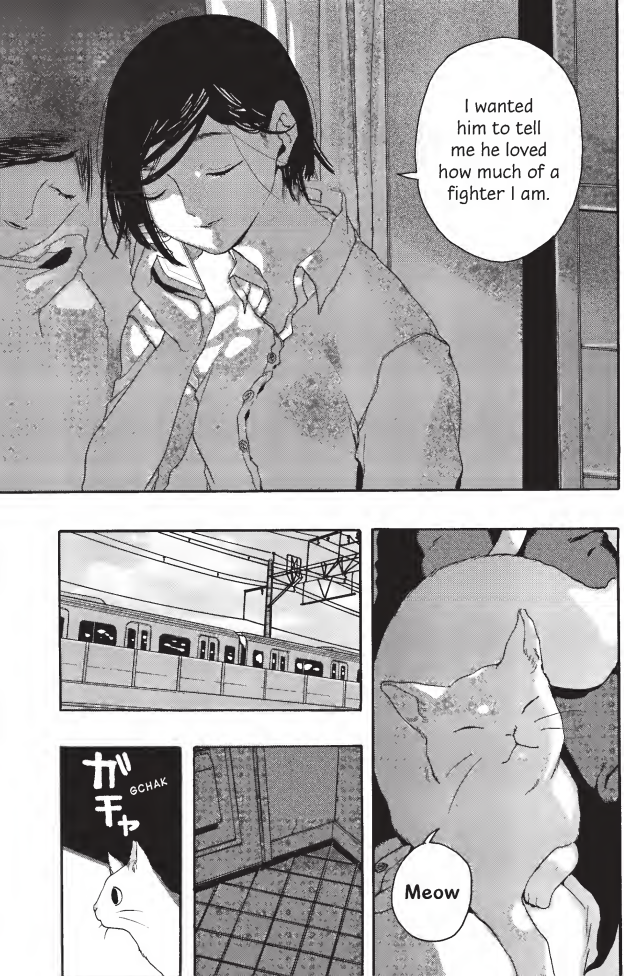

ギィ…
KREAK
That day...
Yes ...
Uh... well...
I promise I'll give you an answer tomorrow.
...Good night.
ガチャ
KCHAK
ボスッ
BOFF

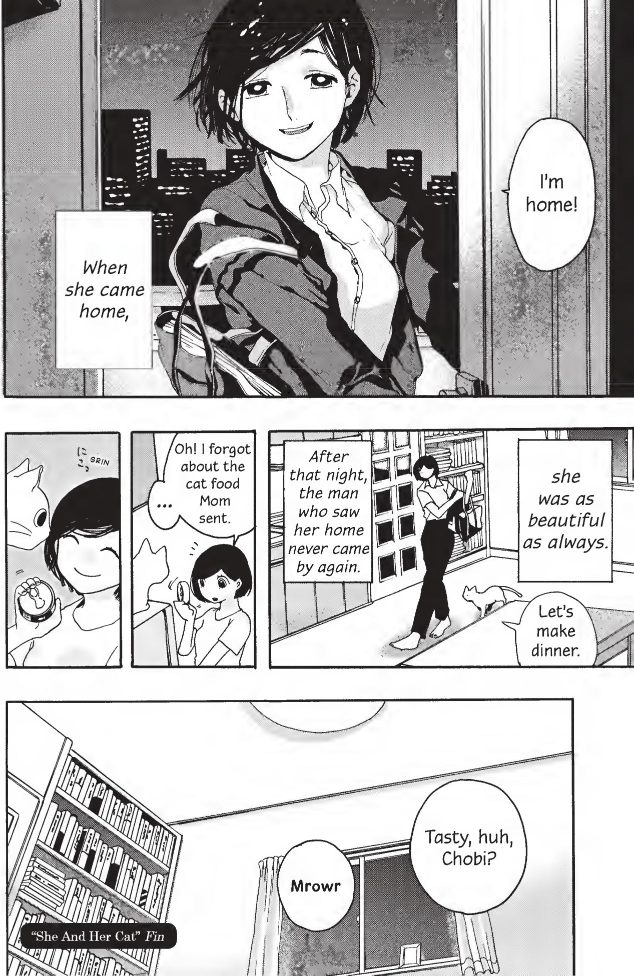

...
She was beautiful today again when she came home.
But sometimes I get uneasy.
Rrgh...
Because it's to be expected that others
will think she's as beautiful as I think she is.
trrilll trrilll


bip
SHFF
あっ
Tomoka.
You read my text?
Yeah...
Yup.
What do I do...? He's a coworker...
Yeah.
The evening spring wind...
Yeah.
Yeah...
Huh?
No, I didn't ask.
He says I'm really cute, and he's always liked me...
...stuff like that.
and her body heat feels nice.

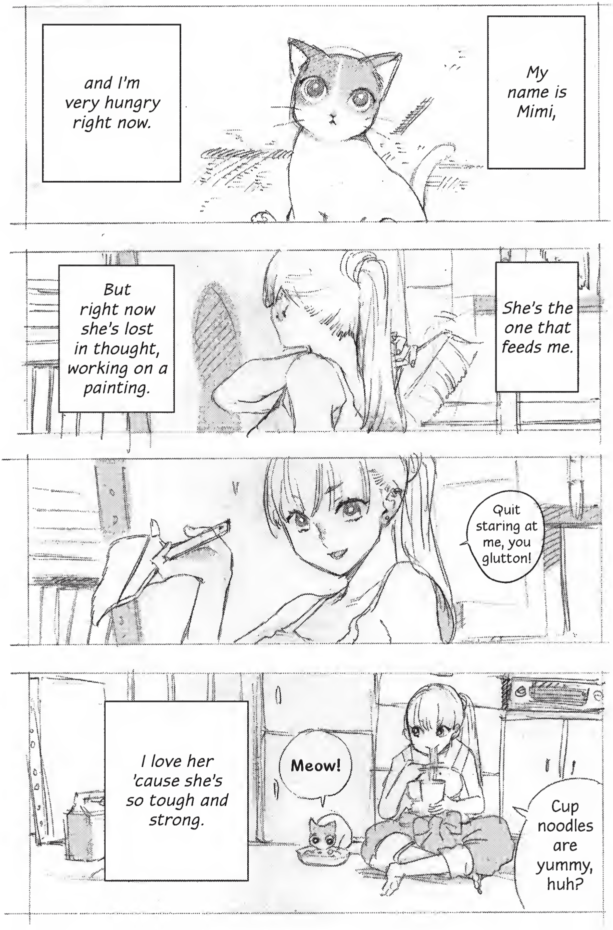

...
I love everything about her.
...I don't know.
I think he's a nice person, but...
When she's in good spirits, and when she's not.
...
...I'm not wishing for anything.
Well, I'm not, but I'm worried. Everybody's going to start getting married soon, right?
And I'm wondering if I'll be doing okay 10, 20 years from now.
...Yeah.


And no matter how hard I work,
when talk of marriage comes up, all that effort seems pointless.
I wish I was born a boy...
... Yeah.
But I can't hate anyone else who loves her.
After all, anyone who loves someone like her, who is so earnest, must surely also live earnestly.
Ah ha ha!
That's true.


I wanted him to tell me he loved how much of a fighter I am.
ガチャ
GCHAK
Meow


I'm home!
When she came home,
she was as beautiful as always.
Let's make dinner.
After that night, the man who saw her home never came by again.
Oh! I forgot about the cat food Mom sent.
...
GRIN
Tasty, huh, Chobi?
Mrowr

"She And Her Cat" *Fin*


My name is Mimi,
and I'm very hungry right now.
She's the one that feeds me.
But right now she's lost in thought, working on a painting.
Quit staring at me, you glutton!
Cup noodles are yummy, huh?
Meow!
I love her 'cause she's so tough and strong.

Thank you to Naruki Nagakawa, author
of the novel version of "She & Her Cat"
(Kanzen Publishing)! I love Mimi and Reina!

5 Centimeters per Second

Story by MAKOTO SHINKAI
Art by YUKIKO SEIKE

Based on the Multiple Award Winning Film

Remember a time before cell phones could be found in every pocket? Or when even accessing the world wide web was something only readily available in a library? Back then letters still filled up postboxes and moments just felt so much more precious when captured on Polaroid film. Now life seems to move at the speed of light. Our memories are captured and shared with the world on social media platforms. And love, which is already capricious, can feel like it is moving at terminal velocity.

In Makoto Shinkai's defining work, the internationally renowned director and animator unfolds a love story that is as timeless as it is fleeting. Yukiko Seike's rendition of this modern classic adds a new level of emotion and intimacy that is unique to its source material.

"*Five Centimeters* is ultimately about moving on from past connections instead of just living in the past, about finding a way to become happy in the present rather than just pining for what has been lost over time. In that sense *Five Centimeters* is Shinkai's most mature and complicated work yet."

– *Anime News Network*

On Sale Now!

Can a poem save your life?

Words are powerful. Insults and rumors can derail a career; a bit of encouragement can give someone the strength to pursue their dreams. When a high school boy skipping class to sketch shoe designs and a taciturn woman drinking a morning beer meet in a Tokyo park, they say little, but the woman bids farewell with an ancient tanka poem. Will the boy figure out the poem's meaning—and its corresponding response—before it's too late?

"Makoto Shinkai, the rising Japanese animator whose heartbreaking, hyper-saturated films marry the delicate beauty of Hayao Miyazaki with the workaday wistfulness of Yasujiro Ozu, has always gravitated towards stories that take place in the space between people."

— *IndieWire*

The Garden of Words

Story by MAKOTO SHINKAI

Art by MIDORI MOTOHASHI

Available now from Vertical Comics!

The Art of Makoto Shinkai

~a sky longing for memories~

Featuring art created by the beloved director, this full-color art book is packed with art from the many movies he directed, including *5 Centimeters per Second*, *The Place Promised in Our Early Days*, and *Voices of a Distant Star*.

A Sky Longing for Memories is a Makoto Shinkai fan's dream!

AVAILABLE NOW!

She and Her Cat

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

She and Her Cat copyright © 2016 Makoto Shinkai / CWF•S&HC EF FILM PARTNERS /Tsubasa Yamaguchi
English translation copyright © 2017 Makoto Shinkai / CWF•S&HC EF FILM PARTNERS /Tsubasa Yamaguchi

All rights reserved.

First published in Japan in 2016 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.
Electronic Publishing rights for this English edition arranged through Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without written permission from the copyright holders.

English digital edition published by Kodansha Advanced Media, LLC, San Francisco.

www.kodanshacomics.com

ISBN: 9781682337868

Digital Edition: 1.0.0

Translation: Kumar Sivasubramanian
Production: Grace Lu
Anthony Quintessenza